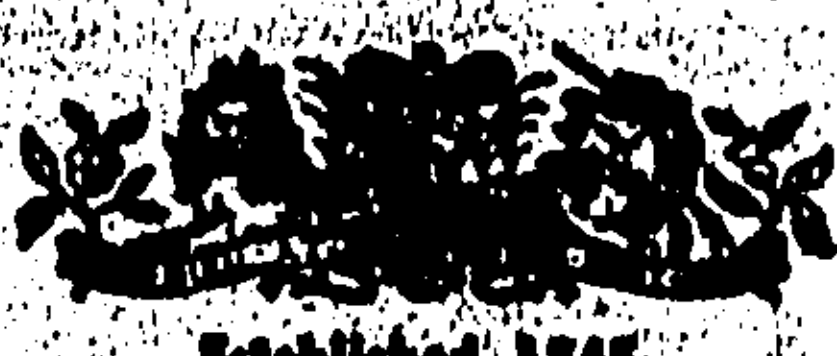


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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1956.

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COMMENT OF THE DAY

System Indicted

DESPITE its occasional bombast, the report of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party is essentially an indictment of the Socialist system as developed in Russia in accordance with Marx-Lenin concepts and principles. All the inherent weaknesses in such a system are revealed by the report, mocking the claim that the interests and well-being of the people are better provided for under Communism than under Capitalism.

Plainly discernible in the discussions of the Central Committee is a sense of disillusionment, leading to what almost amounts to a call to panic stations. For the Russians are now told that "in the shortest historical period" they must "overtake the most advanced capitalist countries in per capita output." This after nearly 40 years of applying a system which its authors maintained would automatically establish itself as being superior to Capitalism.

The development of the Soviet Union as a mighty military power, through concentration on the building up of heavy industries principally devoted to the production of war material and potential is incontestable. But it has had to be done at the expense of the welfare of the people—an admission plainly made by the Central Committee of the Party in their latest report.

Now the accent is to be placed on "achieving a considerable rise in the material well-being of the Russians," though this is not fully explained. Are the Russians merely to get more essential commodities, or are they really to be raised to the living standards of a nation like the United States where one in every three persons owns a car and 90 per cent of householders possess TV sets?

Only one new target is disclosed—more and better houses; and in a tone of hopefulness rather than conviction, it is proposed to realise this programme by eliminating bureaucratic inefficiency. Yet the system of exclusive State planning, which created its own evils, among them bureaucratic inefficiency. Thus the Russian people's prospects of attaining living standards even approximating those of the most advanced capitalist countries remain pretty remote.

Disobedient Reporters' Passports Revoked

Washington, Dec. 28. The State Department today revoked the passports of three US reporters who entered Communist China in defiance of the department's ban on travel to that country.

are being called to the attention of the Treasury Department in view of the relevant provisions of the Trading with the Enemy Act."

The department press officer, Mr. Lincoln White, told reporters he did not know what the relevant provisions of the act

were. The statement, read by Mr. White, emphasised that China's continued detention of ten Americans was "a special impediment" to the travel of Americans in the Communist-held mainland.

This is the reason the

department has given all along for its ban on travel there by US citizens. The reporters are William D. Worthy of the Baltimore Afro-American, and a Look magazine reporter—photographer team, Edmund Stevens and Philip Harrington.—Reuter.

US 'FORMOSA PLAN' FOR MIDDLE EAST POSSIBLE

Washington, Dec. 28.

Authoritative reports that President Eisenhower planned to ask Congress for standby authority to send United States military forces into the Middle East if he considered it essential to world security were warmly welcomed in Western diplomatic circles here today.

The Acting White House Spokesman, Mr. Murray Snyder, refused today to confirm these reports saying: "I have no comment. These reports obviously did not come from me."

But usually well-informed sources said there was no doubt that Mr. Eisenhower was actively considering approaching Congress for a "Formosa formula" authority to send armed forces to the Middle East if necessary.

Mr. Eisenhower received from Congress authority to use force in the defence of Formosa when the Communist Chinese were threatening invasion in 1954-55. It was authoritatively learned that United States planning on the Middle East was being carried out mainly without consulting Britain and France.

Though it was known at the working level that Mr. Eisenhower was going to approach Congress with a Middle East plan soon after Congress convened in January, British and French diplomats were completely unaware of the nature of the Presidential approach.

Connotations

Western diplomats felt that if Mr. Eisenhower does get authority from Congress to use force if necessary in the Middle East, it would have several important connotations, above and beyond putting the Soviet Union on notice about the dangers of open aggression in the area.

One side effect, diplomatic observers suggested, would be to restore Washington as the generating plant of United States Middle East policy, instead of working almost entirely through the United Nations. Presidential authority to send troops to the Middle East would also put heart into the four Baghdad Pact members in the

area—Turkey, Iraq, Pakistan and Iran. Some Western diplomats felt that while these four governments, through the Baghdad Pact link with Britain, had shown they were 100 per cent for the West, they were receiving only 25 per cent support from the United States.

The United States is linked only in economic terms with the Baghdad alliance and has rejected repeated suggestions,

some made quite recently through diplomatic channels, that she join the military provisions of the pact as a warning to the Soviet Union to keep out of the Middle East.

Presidential authority to send armed forces into the Middle East was regarded as a necessary third step in the United States' efforts to prevent the Soviet Union miscalculating in that area.—China Mail Special.

Dulles Off To NY To Discuss Situation

Washington, Dec. 28.

Mr. John Foster Dulles, the Secretary of State, will spend Sunday and Monday in New York consulting at the United Nations on the Middle East situation, the State Department announced today.

The department's spokesman, Mr. Lincoln White, said Mr. Dulles would fly to New York from Washington on Sunday morning and consult with the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, and later with Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Mr. White, in reply to a question, said that the talks would range over the whole Middle East situation and "would, of course, encompass the Suez Canal and Arab-Israeli question."

MANY PROBLEMS

Asked if the New York conferences were the result of any sudden drastic change for the worse in the Middle East, Mr.

White replied firmly: "No. This country regards the Middle East situation quite seriously."

"There are a good many problems to solve in this area and this country is ready to offer what it can to contribute to their solution."

Mr. White said Mr. Dulles will return to Washington on Tuesday morning in time for a White House conference between President Eisenhower and congressional leaders.

At this meeting, informed sources expect Mr. Eisenhower to seek support for a Middle East settlement plan, probably including authority to use United States armed forces in the area if Mr. Eisenhower thinks it necessary.—Reuter.

H.K. WAR HERO SLAIN IN PORT SAID



MAJ. PINKERTON

The China Mail learns that the British major who was killed by Egyptian commandos in a three-hour battle in Port Said on Sunday, December 10, was a 1941 Hongkong war hero.

He was Major David Pinkerton of the Royal Scots, who in December 1941, won the Military Cross for gallantry in a big action against the Japanese at Mt Cameron.

He was then Captain Pinkerton and was serving with the 2nd Batt the Royal Scots. He was twice wounded, but continued to rally his men and was finally taken prisoner. He spent the occupation years in internment at the Argyle Street prisoners of war camp.

After Liberation he returned home and continued his military career. He spent some time in the Staff College and was promoted to major. More recently he was posted to the

1st Batt the Royal Scots and was sent with them to Cyprus and thence to Port Said. A telegram of regret and condolence over Major Pinkerton's untimely death has been sent to his commanding officer in Cyprus by the Hongkong (Argyle Street) Officers' F.O.W. Association (Hongkong Branch.)

STOP PRESS

Fire Destroys Factory

A plastic toy factory on the ground floor of a block of tenement houses at No. 14 Marble Road, North Point, was gutted by a morning blaze today.

One man was seriously injured and taken to hospital suffering from burns to the face and legs. The life of the injured man, Yiu Ting-kwong, one of the workmen in the factory, was saved by the prompt action of Station Officer Woo Man-chin of the Fire Brigade. Yiu was trapped in the yard the rear door of which was locked, barring his escape. Station Officer Woo heard a cry for help and promptly smashed down the rear door to rescue the trapped man. The fire started shortly after 8 a.m. and was put out within half an hour of the arrival of the fire appliances. The blaze was intense, and the heat of the burning plastic caused the blades of ceiling fans to bend without coming into contact with the flames. The frontage of the first and second floors of the building was carbonised by the black smoke belching from the burning plastic.

9 Killed In Air Crash

Tokyo, Dec. 29. A US Air Force B-50 crashed in the woods, 15 miles north-west of Yokota air base on Friday night instantly killing nine and seriously injured two others.

An Air Force spokesman said the two injured men were evacuated by a 36th Rescue Squadron helicopter dispatched to the scene shortly after the accident was reported. The plane, assigned to the 86th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron based at Yokota air base, was returning from a scheduled weather mission at the time of the crash. Yokota air base is some 30 miles north-west of Tokyo.—United Press.

MINES AGAIN SHUT DOWN

Vienna, Dec. 28. Radio Budapest disclosed tonight that miners had shut down the country's coal mines again by taking a "paid vacation" from their jobs. The action, virtually a strike, hit the Soviet puppet regime of Janos Kadar as it was struggling to get the country started back on the road to economic recovery. A dispatch from Budapest said informed non-Communist sources reported nearly 25 per cent of the massive troop and tank force used to crush the Hungarian revolt had been withdrawn from the country and the exodus was continuing.—United Press.

Big UN Assembly Row Brewing

BRITAIN & FRANCE MAY WALK OUT

Washington, Dec. 28.

Britain and France may walk out of the United Nations in January if the Assembly passes an Egyptian resolution for a United Nations fact finding commission to go to Egypt to assess the damage caused by Britain, France and Israel with a view to reparations.

Reliable sources said information received from London and Paris within the last 24 hours indicates the British and French governments are taking an increasingly serious view on this situation and drastic measures may have to be taken if such a resolution passes.

In such case it is considered possible they may be joined by Australia and New Zealand, as their governments are all dissatisfied with the way the Near East situation is being handled at the United Nations.

"ON A BINGE"

The head of one delegation at the United Nations who is spending this week here told the United Press the Afro-Asian bloc is on a "binge" at the United Nations and this has to be stopped. Another delegate said "the Bandung powers" with the Communist nations have taken over the United Nations.

They also blame Dag Hammarskjold, Secretary-General of the United Nations, as they feel he considers the Afro-Asian powers of more importance than the European at the United Nations.

BLOCKADE DAMAGE

The sources said there will be a counter-resolution to the Egyptian one which would provide that any United Nations fact-finding commission that goes to Egypt also assess the damage caused by Egypt in blocking the Canal with 53 obstacles.

Also the commission must assess the economic damage caused to the nations using the Canal through its blockade. The idea is that an impartial fact-finding commission would probably agree that the damage

done by Britain, France and Israel, and that done by Egypt would probably cancel each other out.

Hammarskjold's special envoy, Andrew W. Cordiers and Alfred G. Katzin apparently have instructions from the former to find out whether it might not be better for Egypt to place her demand for reparations before the International Court of Justice rather than the Assembly.—United Press.

More Violence

Douala, French Cameroons, Dec. 28. New nationalist violence involving five deaths has broken out in the Ekeka and Edeko regions, according to reports reaching Douala tonight.

A Catholic monk was killed by assailants near Ekeka and M. Jean Kaelin, administrative head of the Edeko subdivision, was fired upon with a submachine gun by one of his own guards and gravely wounded on Wednesday, the reports said.—Reuter.

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5 SHOWS TO-MORROW
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EXTRA PERFORMANCE AT 12.20 P.M.



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EXTRA MORNING SHOW TO-MORROW

KING'S at 11.15 a.m. Princess at 11.00 a.m.
Columbia Technicolor Walt Disney's
Cartoons and 3 Stooges Technicolor
Parade. CARTOON PROGRAMME

At Reduced Admission: \$1.00 & \$1.50

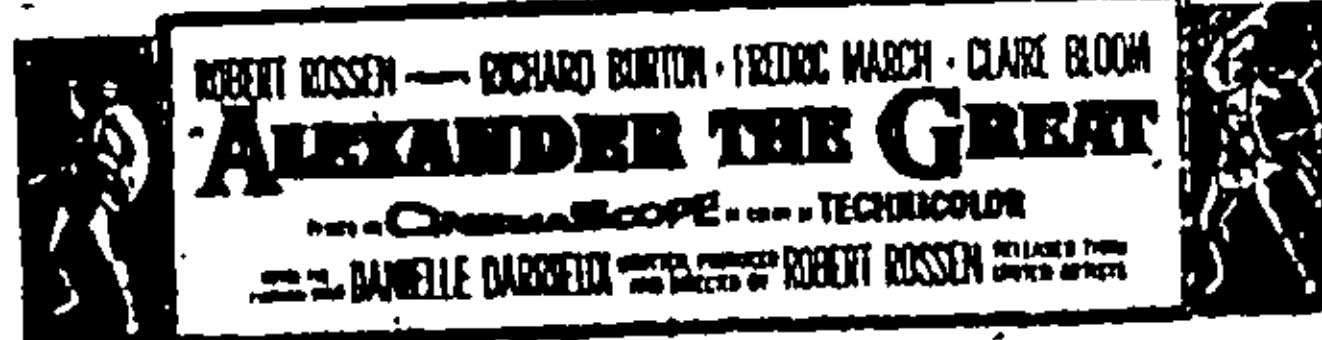
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2nd BIG WEEK! Please note the special times:
AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.40 P.M.STAR: Also Bookings at Hong Kong Side,
(1) Roxy Theatre Enquiring Office
(2) Great China House, No. 8, Queen's Rd., C.
Roxy Theatre Town Booking Office.STAR: To-morrow Morning Show At 11.00 a.m.
LATEST FOX TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS
At Reduced Prices: 70 Cts., \$1.00 & \$1.50

To-morrow Morning Show At 12.30 p.m.

20th Century-Fox presents

"RIVER OF NO RETURN"

Starring: Marilyn MONROE • Robert MITCHUM
At Reduced Prices: 70 Cts., \$1.00 & \$1.50METROPOLE: To-morrow Morning Show At 11.00 a.m.
FOX TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS
At Reduced Prices: 40 Cts., 70 Cts. & \$1.00

To-morrow Morning Show At 12.30 p.m.

Joan SIMMONS • Stewart CRANER in

"YOUNG BESS"

Color by TECHNICOLOR

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At Reduced Prices: 40 Cts., 70 Cts. & \$1.00

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.FINAL TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

NEXT CHANGE

CRAZY BOY



TO-MORROW

THE FABULOUS FURRY FUR

FILMS

BY JANE ROBERTS

Two Changes

There are only two changes in the first run films this weekend and it should be a lesson to cinema managers that a light-weight adventure film and a satire on political relations have proved equally unsuccessful in Hongkong—at least at holiday time.

Replacing "Santago" at the Queen's and Alhambra is a comedy that started life some years ago as "It Happened One Night". It had a lot to do with making the names of its two stars—Claudette Colbert and Clark Gable.

Very much the same story as its predecessor—that of an unmarried couple forced to spend the night in the same room—is "You Can't Run Away From It", but just as was the case with "High Society" and "The Philadelphia Story" the older picture possessed a piquancy that the new one lacks.

It's not that we know the situations. It's not that we know the outcome. It's just that neither seem to matter very much any more.

Undoubtedly June Allyson—though possibly a little too mature for the cynicism she is called upon to exhibit—and Jack Lemmon, have the gift for comedy that this type of film calls for, but they have to work too hard for the laughs that should come naturally.

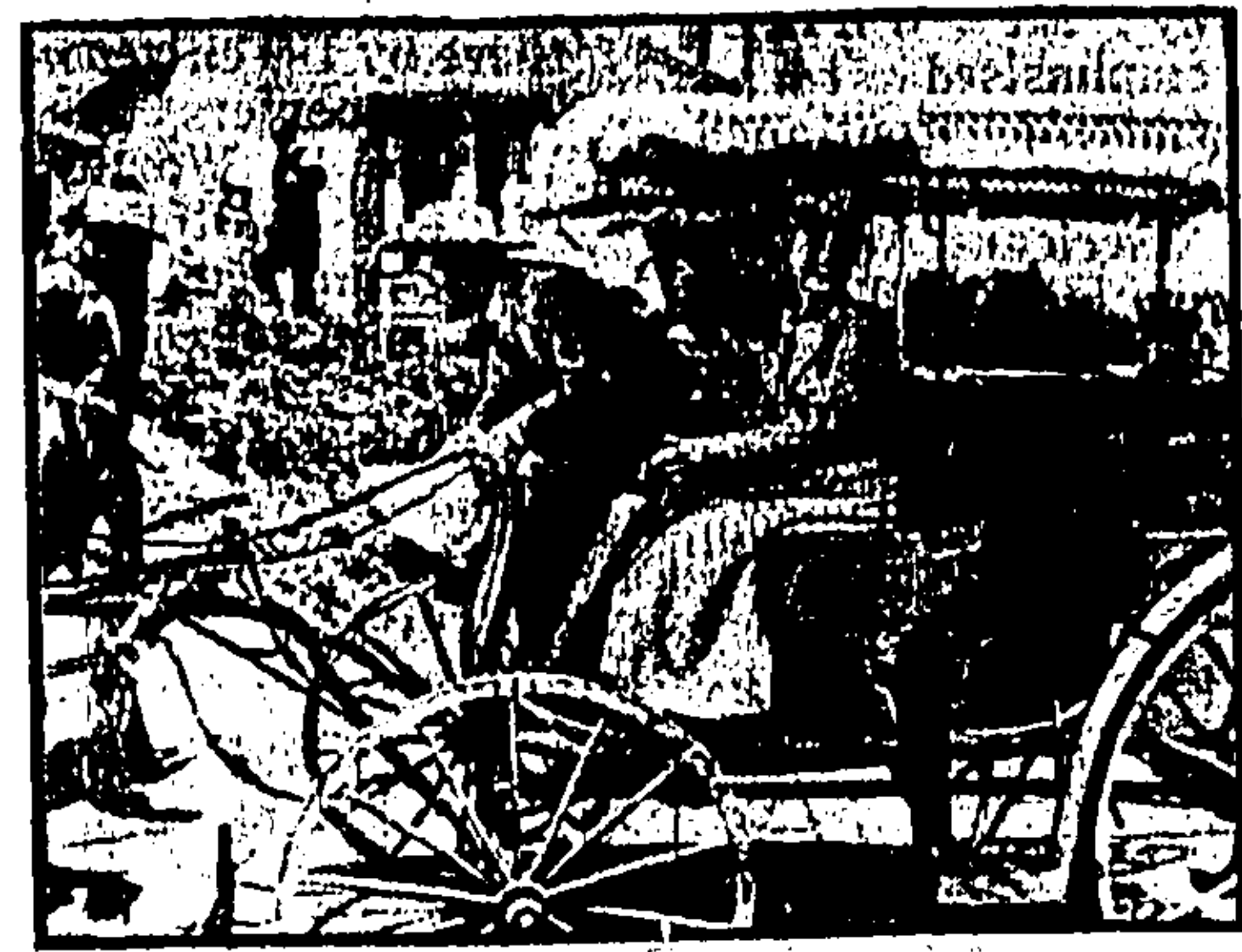
In case you've forgotten—or are lucky enough to have been too young to have seen the former film—the girl is rich and the young man is poor.

This, in itself is not a novel situation, and the fact that he is brighter than she, in spite of his temporary lack of funds, should add to the fun, or did in "It Happened One Night."

I found myself feeling sorry for June Allyson however, and that she's always a fatal blow in straight comedy. She seemed to be such a deluded soul, and the fact that her tough father had to kidnap her to stop her from marrying a fortune hunter seemed to be a horrible reflection on her powers of perception.

In the process of feeling from her father's benevolent tyranny

Oklahoma Honeymoon Couple Set Off



Curly (Gordon MacRae) and Laurie (Shirley Jones) start off on their honeymoon in the "Surrey with the Fringe on Top". Scene from Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!



"High Society" Bing Crosby and Grace Kelly.

background goes completely unsuitable. Somehow he finds his own point of refuge in this madhouse and there are humorous moments that take some of the ghouliness out of the nightmarish.

This is a sympathetic and comparatively unemotional approach to a problem that I suppose many men must have faced during the periods of fighting that have occurred during the last fifteen years or so although many perhaps have been less perceptive than here.

Robert Wagner and not realised into what a desert of misery they were descending.

It's difficult for a woman to try to understand the loneliness of a sensitive man among near animals, but Robert Wagner has made this a thoughtful action picture.

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New Year Films

News from London in lieu of local news this week—there not having been many changes in the first run cinemas—will be of interest.

The end of a year is an appropriate time for the various film studios to announce their intentions for the next and it is equally appropriate that this column should start with a British company's plans.

Original screenplays having been almost completely ousted in favour of adapted best sellers, it will come as no surprise that most of the projected pictures will bear the credit, "from the novel by..."

Among the best selling novels represented are Graham Greene's "Hammond Innes", Mary Webb's "John Masters", Robert Standish's "Novel Shute", and Thomas Hardy's "The Mayor of Frome".

The film takes its name from a high valley in the Rockies to which young Campbell (Bogarde) arrives from England. Although he believes himself incurably ill he goes ahead with a task begun by his grandfather.

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MORE NEWS ABOUT THAT SKYSCRAPER

AN OFFICE ONE MILE HIGH WILL HOLD 130,000 PEOPLE, 15,000 CARS

This project for the "Illinois" skyscraper, ONE MILE IN HEIGHT, by the 88-year-old architect Frank Lloyd Wright, is sensational even in the country of sensational buildings.

It is planned for Chicago and will overlap by thousands of feet the highest buildings in the world.

Its structure is based on the principle of the stability of the tripod—pressure upon any side are at once resisted by the other two, and it will be more airplane in character than the usual heavy building. It is anticipated that there will be no sway even at the very peak of the building.

Stainless steel

The exterior will be of stainless steel. Atomic power will drive 56 lifts engaging ratchet tracks, not suspended as in ordinary lifts. They will serve five divisions of 100 stories each.

Special through-service lifts will rise at a speed of a mile a minute. Escalators will serve the bottom five floors. Together with the lifts they should fill or empty the entire population of 130,000 within the hour.

100 helicopters

Covered parking for 15,000 cars will be provided, together with two decks for 50 helicopters each. The rapier-like building, stabbing into the upper atmosphere, will gleam like polished silver. All vertical members will be of gold-coloured metal.

Architectural in this building soars in fact into the realm of aeronautical engineering. Problems up to now unknown will be solved by revolutionary materials and methods which will decide the shape of things to come—London Express Service.

FOR SEEING 'GUYS AND DOLLS'

ASKED TO LEAVE SCHOOL

Eastbourne.

Three weeks before the end of his final term an Eastbourne College boy has been asked to leave for going to a cinema to see "Guys and Dolls." Two more boys who went with him have been asked.

The film was being shown in Eastbourne for fortnight.

Although four films, mainly adventure, are shown every term at the college, the temptation to see "Guys and Dolls" proved too much for 17-year-old Norman Beckett and his two friends.

One of the boys borrowed a prefect's bicycle. When the prefect missed it, he informed the house-master, Mr. K. Hindley.

Later the prefect found the machine outside a cinema and told Mr. Hindley, who went there and waited for the three boys to come out.

The next day all three were on the "mat" before headmaster Mr. Michael Birley. Beckett was asked to "leave the school."

The other two were asked to leave the school.

All three boys belong to Pennell House. Said Mr. Birley, who was once assistant master at Eton: "Beckett was not expelled. He was asked to leave the college, but was told that he was well come to return any time as an old boy. Expulsion deprives a boy of that right."

Why was Beckett asked to leave while the others were only asked? Said Mr. Birley, "Beckett had been cautioned for other misdemeanours."

WON £4,200 CAR

FROM the day he left school, 20-year-old Alexander Smith had but one dream... a car. But the chance of getting one—even a second-hand car—was a long way off. For Alexander was short of cash.

Today his dream has come true. The car is his... and it is the most exclusive car in Britain.

The cost: More than £4,200. The name: Aston Martin Superleggera Spyder.

But all it cost Alexander was a little thought and a certain amount of flair. For he is the winner of contest sponsored by a London newspaper.

Now all that Alexander has to do is to learn to DRIVE.

At his home in the little five fishing village of Westgate, Crail, he said: "I'm dying to get behind the driving wheel, but it would be a crime to start practising on a beauty like this."

In a few months' time he will finish his apprenticeship as a joiner. After that he will do his National Service.

Alexander will receive, in addition to the car, more than £700 in cash to run it.

Special Train For Birds

British Railways recently put on a special train to take two pet budgerigars eleven miles to Milton Keynes. They missed connections.

It was a grand gesture to lay on a special train, said owner Albert Green. They are two of my best birds.

The special train consisted of a locomotive and tender and a passenger van.

Interesting News Stories From All Parts Of The World

AN INVISIBLE MAN

(HE WEIGHS 16 STONE)



IF THE CHAIR HOLDS OUT...

The man behind the invisible man... operates the 24lb. weight that hangs down on the chair 300 times. If the chair holds out then it can stand up to a normal lifetime's wear.

TESTS YOUR CHAIRS

... BY SITTING

DOWN

300 TIMES

If a 16st. man goes to buy a fireside chair this autumn, how many times should he try sitting down on it to find out if it will last?

This is not a riddle for the 11-plus scholarship class. It is a question asked—and answered—in a disused garage in Mayfair, where the British Standards Institute tests new furniture.

Using machines that look like surplus stock from a medieval torture chamber—they will be on show at the Furniture Exhibition in the New Year—the Institute's inspectors prove that they have to be cruel to furniture to be kind to the public.

It groaned

I watched as a fireside chair waited, like an aristocrat, for the guillotine. This was where the 16-stone man came invisibly into the affair. For suddenly a weight, representing him, was dropped on to the seat of the chair. Utterly, the chair groaned.

This procedure is followed 300 times in all. It represents, explained Mr. Mabery, an executive of the Institute, a normal lifetime's wear.

How was the figure of 300 reached? "At first we tested to destruction. Then we found that after 300 times there was no change, not even if we continued up to two or three thousand."

The seal

Furniture that passes this and other tests worked out by the Institute of the Furniture Development Council is rewarded with the seal of the Institute—a kite. In all, 65 per cent of the furniture made in this country carries this mark.

Many British manufacturers have set up their own "testing rigs." Inspectors of the Institute visit them to test prototypes of the furniture, and at least one in every two hundred of the articles that come off the production line.

It might be a dining-chair. "Don't forget," said Mr. Mabery, "that when you sit down, you drop directly on to the chair for the last two or three inches." He was about to demonstrate, then, noticed that the chair lacked a seat. But a machine can reproduce the action of sitting to test the chair.

Meanwhile, on another "rack" a bedstead was being pulled apart in various directions at once. How does antique furniture stand up to treatment? I was told that some period pieces had been tested for fun—and some of them, the solid Jacobean furniture, for example, came through perfectly well.

Ill-fitting

I wish the same could be said of the modern wardrobe I saw tested. Miserably thin, with ill-fitting shelves, it creaked under the weights that represented a normal load of clothes. As a lever was pulled to see how it would respond to normal shifting about, the structure—it had cost £18—shuddered near to collapse. "That," said Mr. Mabery, "is just the sort of abomination we are trying to kill."

Anna Landau

(London Express Service).

The film-makers fall for three Cleopatras

... ELEGANT MARGARET, FIERY ANNA AND SHAPELY GINA

THAT other, earlier Serpent of the Nile, Cleopatra (who had a more effective way than Nasser of dealing with Anthony), has suddenly become very popular with film-makers. Three different versions of Anthony and Cleopatra are now being planned. And three very different Cleopatras are being lined up to struggle with Anthony in their own inimitable way.

First of the Cleopatras is the very English, very elegant Margaret Leighton. She, it is present plans materialise, will have Michael Redgrave as her Anthony. The idea is for the film to be made next year in Rome.

Second of the potential Cleopatras is the fiery, ex-

plosive Roman, Anna Magnani. Her Anthony would be James Mason. He would make the film for 20th Century Fox in Hollywood.

And the third choice for Cleopatra—now being discussed—is the less fiery but

SHOW NEWS

by THOMAS WISEMAN

more shapely serpent of the Nile—Gina Lollobrigida. Egyptian-born producer Raymond Hakim wants her to play Cleopatra. He is still looking for an Anthony.

Latest of the film heart-throbs to be bitten by the culture-bug is Gregory Peck. I hear he wants to play Hamlet at America's Barter Theatre, a place where he and a number of other actors began their careers.

They are saying in Hollywood that if Peck goes ahead with this plan he may be the only actor who both started and finished his career at the same theatre. I am inclined to take a less pessimistic view of the venture.

Lost Sphinx

WHILE Dorothy Tutin has been in hospital someone has removed the sphinx from her old but faithful car, Boffin. Her father writes to me to say: "Dorothy thinks it is a bad omen for Boffin to lose his sphinx."



MISS KERR TAKES THE ROAD BACK

LADY in the limo, protecting herself from the fierce heat of the Caribbean sun, Deborah Kerr—now, happily, in Robson, with Robert Mitchum—signifies to this poster that she is bringing Miss Kerr, career full circle, she made her first big impact playing a nun in Black Narcissa.

After that she became fixed to the screen and, as a result, is now in Hollywood. It is a long way from the one that is worse than death, but she is here, by sheer determination, she has managed to lose her virtue on the screen. Now she seems to be taking the road back to respectability. In The King and I she was the somewhat stern English governess who introduced propriety into the harem of the King of Siam. Now in Heaven Knows Mr. Allison she plays a nurse stranded with a marauding band of pirates on a remote island. Under the direction of John Huston and the screenplay of Philip Yordan, she is a woman of letters.

TEXTILES & TAILORING CENTRE

U.S. F.E.A.F. Concessionaire

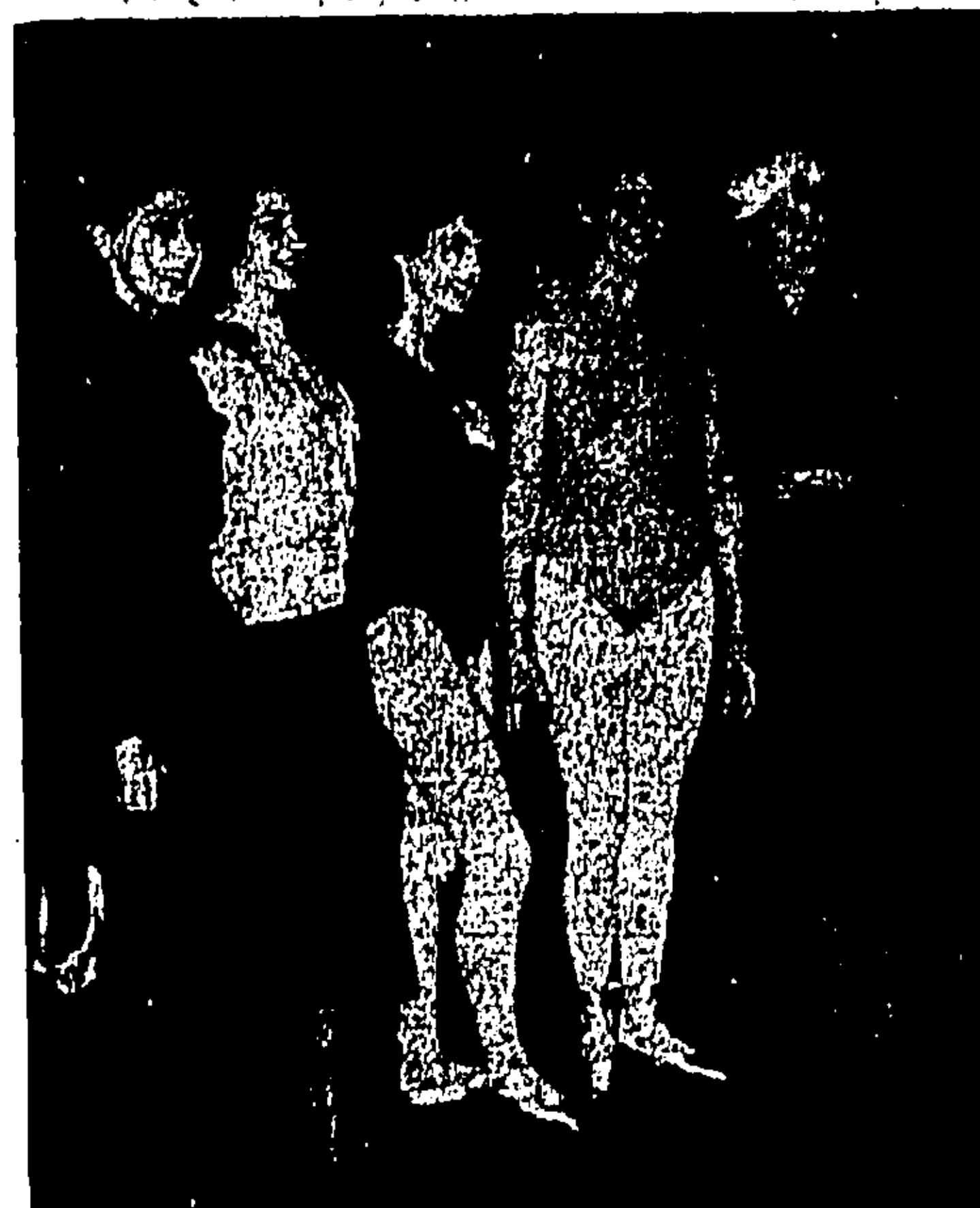
U.S. NAVY Contractor

GREAT CHINA HOUSE, 8-10 QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL HONG KONG

HOMESIDE PICTORIAL



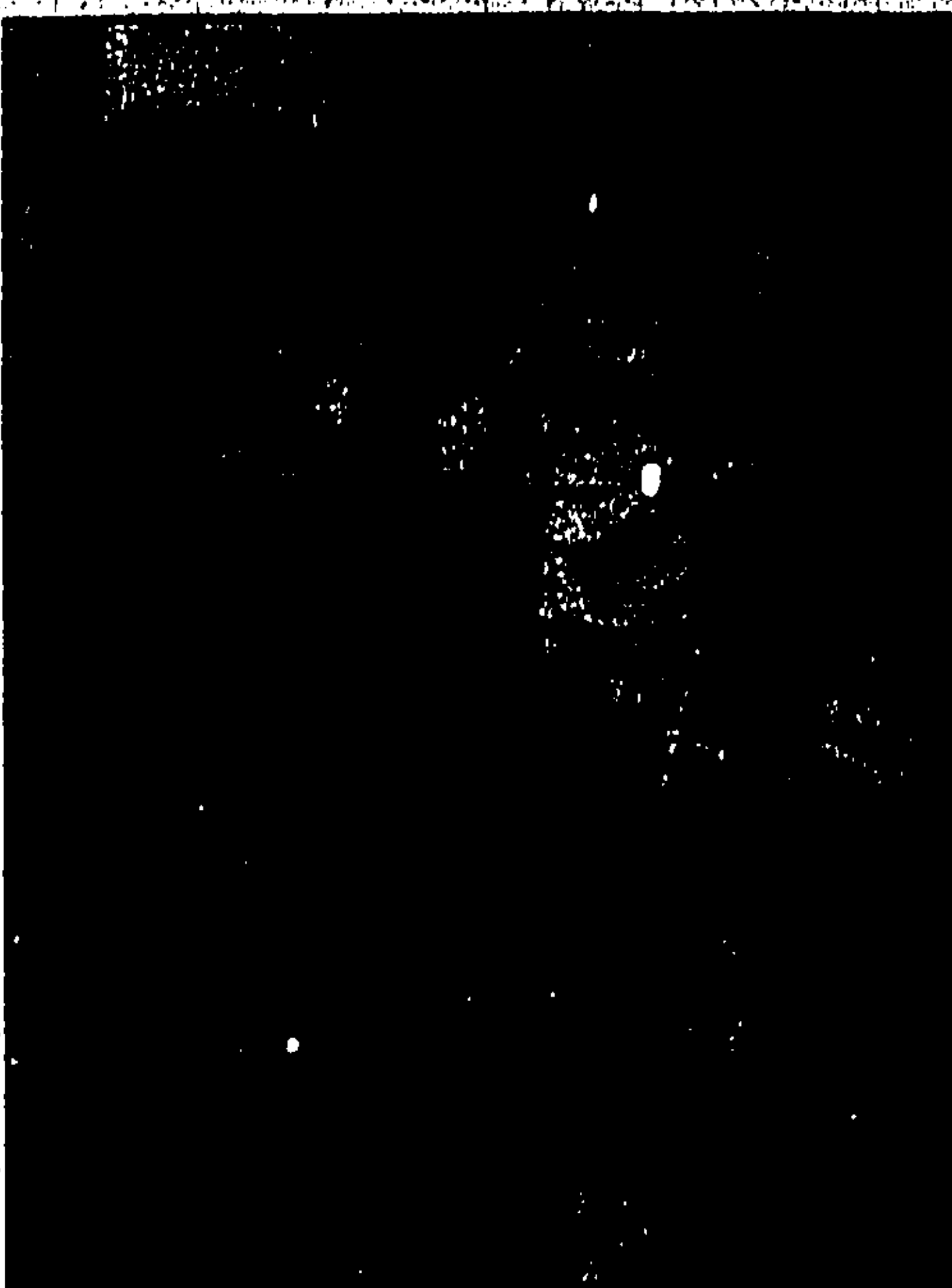
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN congratulating France's Jean-Louis Barrault and his wife, actress Madeleine Renaud, after seeing them perform in the bedroom comedy, "Occupe-toi d'Amelie." M. Barrault's company is meeting much success in London with the saucy French farce. (Express)



THESE top-flight British ballerinas are pictured at the rehearsal of the gala performance in London in aid of the Hungarian refugee fund. They are, from left: Dame Margot Fonteyn, Marilyn Burr, Rowena Jackson, Beryl Grey and Alicia Markova. (Express)



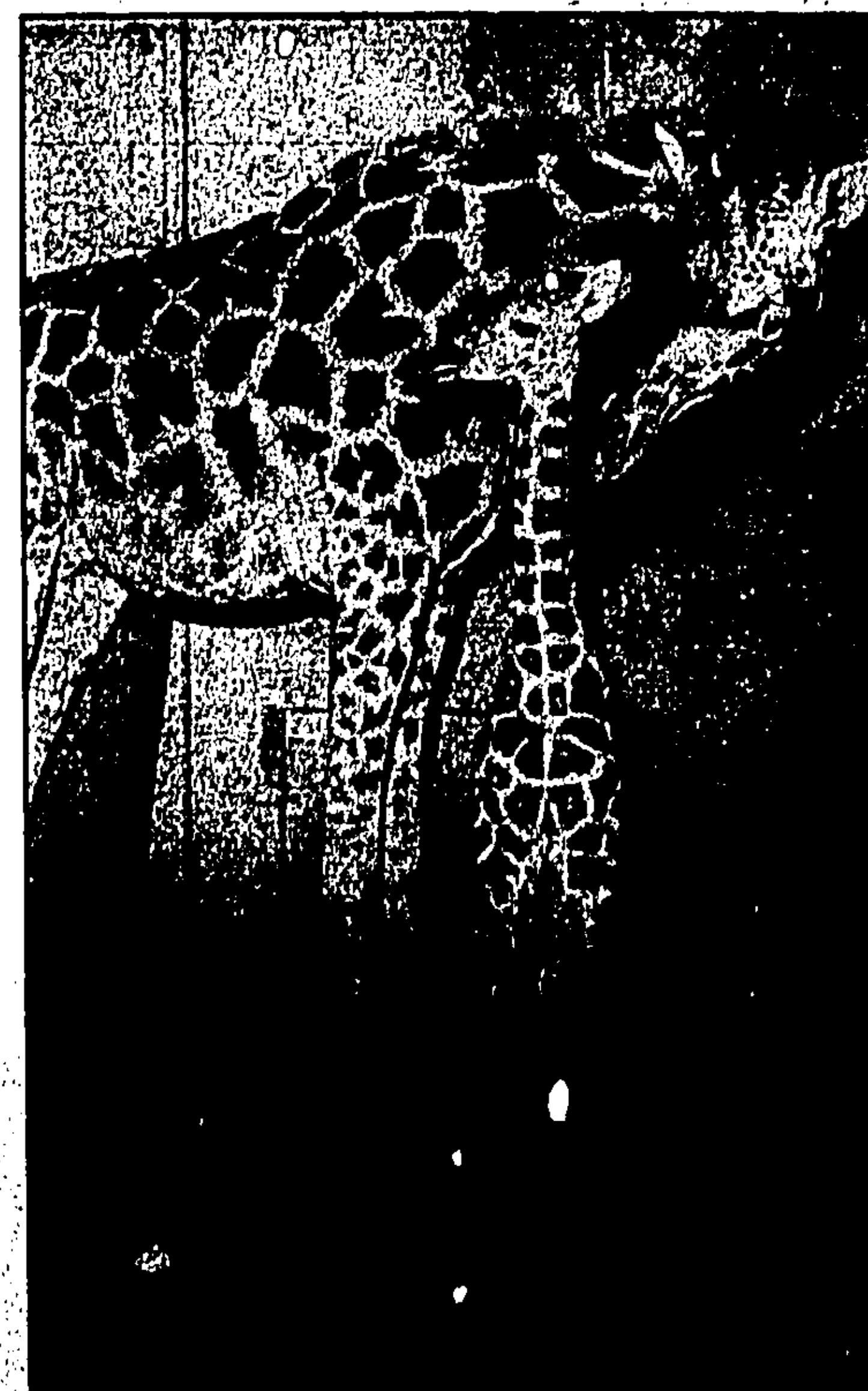
JUST 30 inches tall is Henry Behrens who, with his wife, 36-inches-tall Emma, is suing the Bertram Mills Circus for damages through circus elephants crashing into their sidecar at Olympia, London. Sixty-two years of age, Henry calls himself "King of the Little People." He is being held up by a reporter at his Worthing home.



REUNITED in Dover—Mrs Eva Slepkanjew and her daughter Edith, whom she had to leave behind in Budapest when she escaped from Hungary to Britain 12 years ago. Mrs Slepkanjew last saw her daughter when the child was four. Edith, who managed to flee in Hungary during the recent trouble, said: "M. alkam, I never forgot you...." (Express)



BOY instrumentalists of the Arborfield Apprentice School competing in the Boys' Regiments Music and Drama Festival at Aldershot. These four are warming up with great gusto, playing traditional jazz. (Army News)



MEET Terry, London Zoo's newest giraffe, here with his proud mother. He was born at the end of November, and is no more than six feet tall. He is named after Terry Spinks, British Olympic Gold Medalist in the flyweight boxing class. (Express)



THIS picture of Princess Margaret has won the award for the Best Royal Picture of the Year in a competition just ended in England. It was taken last June in the Potteries district by Dave Cooksey of the Daily Express. (Express)



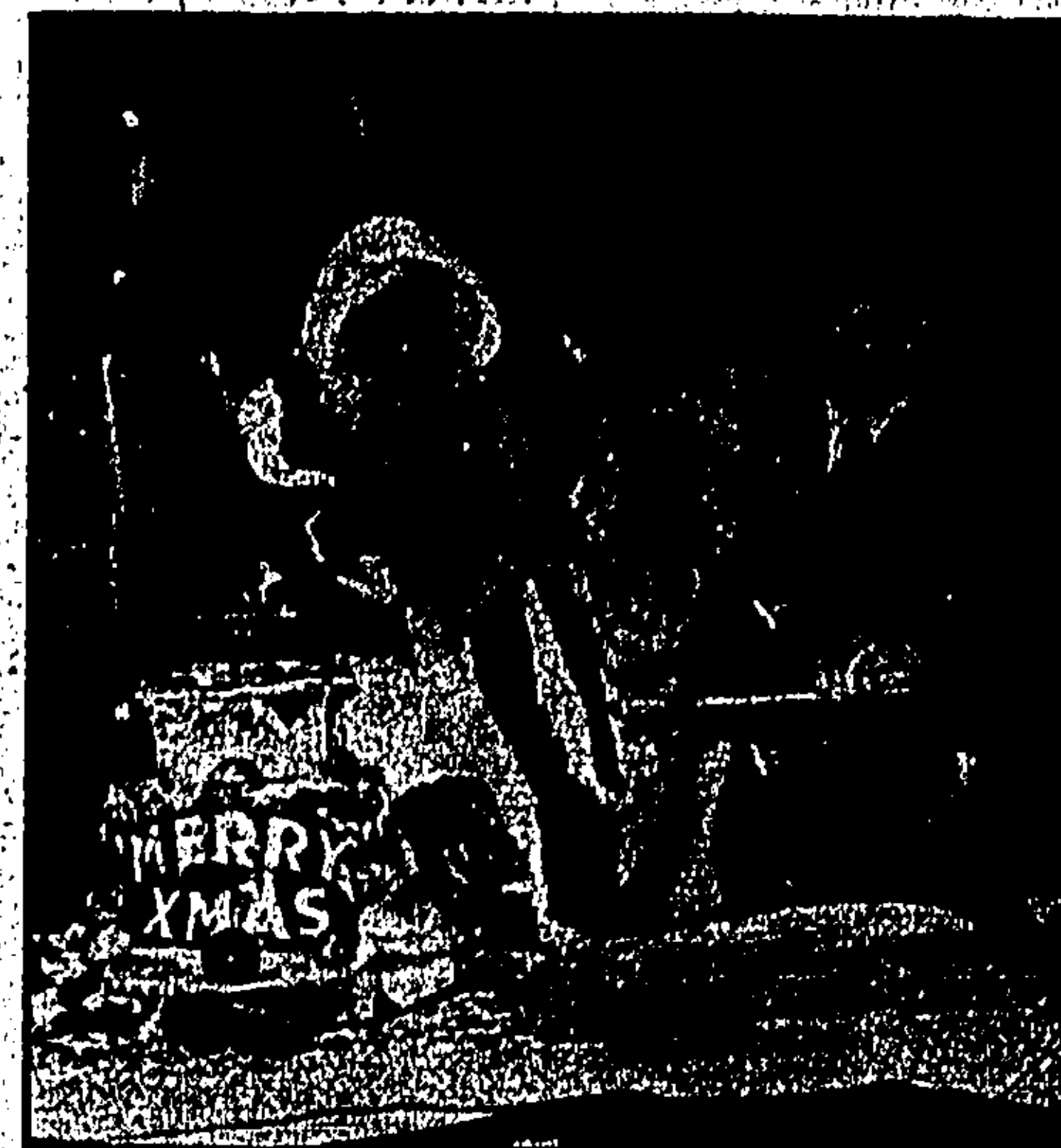
ROBERT HELPMANN in the role of Shylock in the Old Vic production of William Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice." The play opened in London just before Christmas.



NEWS for motor scooter enthusiasts! A Birmingham firm has now produced a glass fibre sidecar for the scooters. The Bambini, pictured here, is a super-lightweight sidecar on a one-tube chassis. Cost in Britain, with purchase tax, is £65, but overseas it will be cheaper. (Express)



ARRIVAL at London Airport from America of John Gold, 21-month-old baby whose life was saved by a miracle operation on his heart. His parents, Mr and Mrs William Gold, accompanied him from St Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minnesota, where the operation was performed in October. (Central)



CHRISTMAS party for all sorts of animals held at the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals sanatorium, Ilford. Here, four-year-old pony Betsy helps himself to a carrot from a wooden spoon, held by Joan Walford, a Dispensary ambulance driver. Father Christmas was around to see fair play. (Army News)

NANCY



By Ernie Bushmiller

ROWNTREES



By Henry Brandon

President Eisenhower has publicly emphasised the need to preserve the Western Alliance and some sort of panic has begun to set in here that too much terrain may have been lost unless the signals are quickly reversed. But Britain and France's independent action has also left deep wounds here which blinds many people to the realities of the situation. The great deal of animosity is personal. Just as in Britain there has been agitation for a long time for Mr Dulles' retirement, there is now here a good deal of a similar agitation against Sir Anthony Eden—not against the Conservative Government as such. And some American influential policy makers believe that the departure of both would probably be the quickest way of healing the wounds.



Conducted
by
SEFTON DELMER

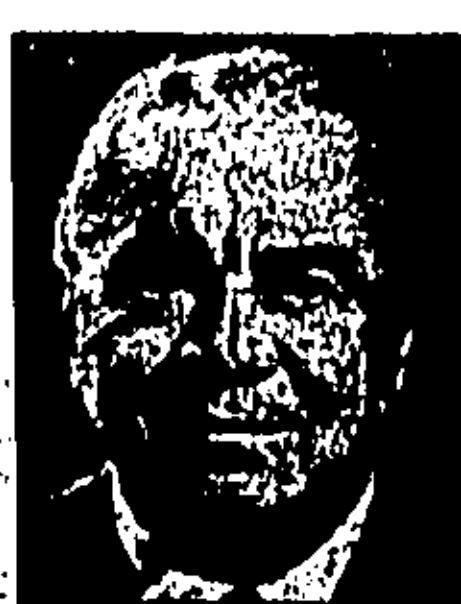
Contributing writers:
STEPHEN CONSTANT...MAURICE COWLING

THE SOVIET ESPIONAGE SERVICE IN WESTERN EUROPE HAS BEEN CRIPPLED BY THE SOVIET TERROR IN HUNGARY.

Soviet spy chiefs are making desperate efforts to recruit new contacts.

TIP: to succeed Charles Wilson as U.S. Secretary of Defence — General Gruenther, former Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, previously tipped to succeed Dulles as foreign policy chief.

Q UOTE from Lord ("Pug") Ismay, Nato's departing secretary-general, defending Nato for not inter-



SHOWDOWN FOR KRUSHCHEV

I doubt whether they will save Khrushchev from the wrath of the Stalinists and the Red Army over the failure of his de-Stalinisation policy in Hungary.

Anyhow prospects -- however vague at present of any U.S. withdrawal from Europe are bound to be a major topic behind the scenes at the plenary meeting of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, which begins in Moscow today.

For don't forget, only four weeks ago Krushchov, speaking off the cuff at the Kremlin reception for Poland's Gomulka, declared: "If the Americans will withdraw their troops from Germany, France, and Britain, we will not stay one day in Poland, Hungary, and Rumania."

Since the Moscow has p
fresh divisions into Hu
Bulgaria, and Rumania.
practically disarmed the Ru
lan Army after finding it c
reliable as that of Hungar

Red Army chiefs may feel that with the tide in Europe running against them they must disavow their tite, hard-drinking party. And there is only one way that effectively.

WHO are the men making the big money out of the Suez crisis?

There are four of them: three Greeks, Niarchos, Onassis, and Livranos—and one American, Daniel K. Ludwig.

These four have for the past few years been building one super-tanker after another—ocean-going ships of anything from 40,000 to 100,000 tons. The rest of the oil men laughed at them, went on building the small 16,000-ton standard tankers capable of using the Suez Canal. Now it's the turn of the big

Ludwig is the most amazing of them all. In 1951 he took a lease of the badly bombed Japanese naval yards at Kure near Hiroshima. He repaired the yards, started building super tankers: four of 84,730 tonner of 94,000. He has a 100,000 tonner on the stocks at Kure now.

With oil freight at the present level, the big four are making one of the biggest financial killings of all times.



EGYPTIAN postal authorities are planning to issue a postage stamp commemorating Nasser's victory over Britain, France and Israel. The design above has been submitted by Cummings.

WATCH for a new armed coup in Indonesia—under the Dutch colonial administration one of the most peaceful, prosperous, and well-run countries in the world.

A powerful group of army officers, led by the flamboyant Colonel Zulkifli Lubis, wants to overthrow the corrupt regime of pro-Communist President Soekarno.

SIR IVONE AND

Office chief Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick's off-the-record remarks to New York Herald-Tribune correspondent Don Cooke—in which he is said to have warned that American opposition to Eden over Suez might bring an anti-American

Don Cooke preserved Sir Ivone's reported confidence and did not send his words to his newspaper. But he did mention them to an official of the US Embassy in London, who called them to Washington.

garbled version to Time magazine.

Was Sir Ivone justified in denying he had made the statement—if in fact he did? Certainly. By accepted practice words spoken to a reporter off the record have not been spoken.

CARDINAL MINDSZENTY is now living in the American Minister's private office in the U.S. Legation in Budapest. He has been asked not to circulate or see any strangers. The room has its own bathroom. His meals are brought to him. He says his

own Mass in the office every day. Guarding the legation is a single Hungarian policeman.

HOW TO WASTE AN EXPERT

Wingate tradition, has been given a very conventional, almost humdrum, command in Britain. He is to take charge of

If I were in charge at the War Office I could think of a better way to use Fergusson's talents: Send him to Cyprus. And—Radcliffe Constitution or no Radcliffe Constitution—let him set up his own anti-terrorists.

late—against the Stern Gang in Palestine.

Hungary's king, St Stephen—a priceless relic endowed by Hungarians with almost mystical qualities—was flown from the United States to Wiesbaden, Germany, at the beginning of

The crown has been kept in the U.S. since it was captured from the Nazis at the end of the war. The Americans refused to hand it over to Hungary's Communist rulers.

SCHEMING

GERMAN generals are planning to restore the old jackboot (plus a buckle) to the new German Army—in place of the American-type lace-up boots. (CORRECTION)



The sweep second hand of a normal watch moves jerkily five times in one second. The second hand of this new and unique DOXA Ref. 15000 Strikes clearly second after second in one beat only.

Main advantages of this new
DOXA creation:

- 1 By pulling out the crown the sweep second stops ensuring thus extremely accurate time-setting either with radio or telephone.
- 2 Clear and precise reading to the second.
- 3 Comparisons are now possible with laboratory-, bord- and industrial instruments.
- 4 Indispensable in the medical trade for doctors' and nurses' control operations.
- 5 Particularly well indicated in all scientific, sports and military activities, where accurate time to the second is essential.

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Cummings turns his back on 1956 and forecasts 1957...



Eden gets on speaking terms with Ito, and secures a top-level conference



The pressure of events drives Khrushchev to rest at Goldeneye



Nasser pays a state visit to Britain (B and K style) and is entertained to dinner (Socialist Party style)



But nothing, of course, changes Mr. Nehru's opinion of "The Brown Man's Burden"

TWO WAYS of LOOKING AT YOUR WIFE



Like this?



...or this?

HAVE you ever considered having your wife's portrait painted? And if you were prepared to pay the 50— or maybe 1,000—guineas that it would cost, how would you like to see her on canvas?

I believe that all most husbands ask is a nice quiet likeness in a lovely gilded frame. All they really want could be achieved quicker and better in a colour photograph.

The typical expression I know, and had expected. "But now, having lived with it, I like it, and I've realised that husbands must allow artists a certain amount of licence."

"We should consider ourselves lucky, I suppose, to have the little woman come home with an encaustic portrait by El Greco tucked under her arm. Wonderful pictures, but complete distortions."

Controversy

ART critics acclaimed Nicholas Eggon's portrait of Mary Churchill, which hangs with a Titian and a Rembrandt in a private collection in Athens. But her husband, Mr. Christopher Soames, was cross about it. He did not care for all that soul-searching in her eyes.

Blame them

HOW boring these conventional unspiced likenesses are. What an astounding thought that among 400 faces of the famous, the rich, and the beautiful, there is practically nothing to thrill the eye or jerk the mind. So many women in twin-sets and pearls looking desperately, refined. So many men in City suits, staidly themselves against the executive chair.

Mrs. Soames loved it. "I'm so happy I don't look like a chocolate box."

"There was a controversy in which all the family joined, and eventually the picture, which had been commissioned for Sir Winston's birthday, was returned."

by SYLVIA LAMOND

What is the reason for this lack of originality? How did the artist get into this dreary rut?

He puts the blame on to the family of his sitter. Particularly the one who pays for the portrait. Particularly the husband.

"The relatives" are a pain in the side of the portrait painter. And an even bigger one in his pocket.

THE HUMORIST Wendy Hiller's husband when he first clapped eyes on her face, drifting in dark, smoky clouds of symbolism: "She looks as if she struck a match and forgot the gas was on."

The sale of a portrait so often depends on whether the husbands or the rich aunt in Scotland likes the picture.

Apart from a Queen's favourite like Annigoni, most artists' studios are stacked with useless portraits worth thousands of pounds.

Allow licence

EVEN Annigoni, who is not bothered financially, says: "It is better if the husband, and the picture of his wife, and me, don't come together too often. It is sometimes upsetting."

"One man hurt my feelings very much. He said this was nothing like his wife. The left ear was wrong and where was her mole?"

Most modern portrait painters will tell you that Sargent, the greatest in his day, spoke for them all when he said in a cynical moment: "The definition of a portrait is easy. It's a picture with a little something wrong about the mouth."

"Isn't there something wrong about the waist?" said Barrister Ronald Armstrong-Jones when he saw the unfinished portrait of his wife.

"Yes—it's too small. Give her another couple of inches and make it accurate."

Inches added

THE artist, James Proudfoot, did—while the husband waited.

Proudfoot says, gamely: "I don't really mind criticism. Sometimes it's helpful, and the blunt criticism of a child is the best of all."

A nine-year-old girl criticised a portrait of her sister. "She looks nice," said the child, "but her eyeballs are all peculiar."

Providence realised that the "twist" on which his medals sit was too low and the eyes looking too much "up" at him.

were caught by the light in a distorted way.

"I've now fixed it so that they all look at my top waistcoat button."

Lady Wheeler (wife of Sir Mortimer) could not at once accept the new portrait of her archaeologist husband. "It simply isn't him," she said. "I can never remember him once wearing an open-neck shirt."

A few days later she apologised to the artist. "You've obviously revealed his true self to him."

The impeccable dresser Sir Mortimer, had developed a sudden taste for open-necked shirts and was relaxing about the house like an aristocratic lumberjack.

Which side?

NOW ask yourself which side you are on—the artist's or the relative's?

Would you like your wife painted with snakes in her hair? Did this do to Lady Mountbatten?

Would you like your husband painted without feet—growing out of the necks Sutherland style?

For me, Yes, both times. Let's give the artist a free reign to put more of himself into a portrait.

Otherwise, why don't we just stick to the photographer?

He's more accurate, and a whole lot cheaper. (COPYRIGHT)

William Hickey

THE man who held down the young gentlemen of the Eton while they were birched is dead. The news spread around the college the other day.

George Woodridge was Eton's "school messenger" for 30 years. And in that time he had helped in the tanning of scores of young aristocrats—sons of dukes, Cabinet Ministers, generals, ambassadors.

The Eton College Chronicle, the school paper, announcing his death at 71, discreetly did not mention his birching job. It referred only to his other duty—showing visitors round the school.

By Eton custom, Woodridge had to bend over with the boy to be birched, and to hold him still across the 150-year-old birching block.

Woodridge himself modified the earlier practice of sitting on the victim's head.

After each "swiping" (the Eton schoolboys' name for a flogging) Woodridge had to enter the boy's name in a book. That ensured that the parents were charged at the end of term with 11s., the cost of the birch used.

An Eton boy said: "It's a fairly good thing, the most common form of punishment at Eton is caning by the head of the house. At least that costs nothing."

Only the head master and lower master (head of the junior boys) can "swipe." Six is the usual number of strokes.

HIS FIRST FILM: A CLOSE-UP OF A MODERN MYSTERY

I prefer my Elvis complete with his belt!



ELVIS THE SUBDUED—WITH DEBRA PAGET IN HIS FILM

IN AMERICA I SAW HIS

FANTASTIC FRENZY...

BUT HERE IT'S GONE

By LEONARD MOSLEY

WHO stole Elvis Presley's belt? Who put a brake on his rotating pelvis?

But will the adoring followers of the Elvis cult get a genuine dose of the treatment in "LOVE ME TENDER"? I have bad news for them.

Who took the shake, rattle, and roll out of his leg joints and the twitch off his face—and turned America's most fascinatingly neurotic crooner into just another mother's boy with a voice?

Elvis has been robbed. They have tried to turn him into an actor by making him a character in a Western melodrama. When he sings, they photograph him from a distance or keep their cameras sternly above his Plimsoll line. And, perhaps worst of all, they have made him take off his belt.

I ask these questions after seeing a private showing of Elvis Presley's first film.

I went to it in anticipation of some strange and unusual entertainment.

For I have seen Elvis performing on the stage in America, and there has never been anyone quite like him in entertainment before.

The entry

HE undulates on to the stage, plucks a few notes from the guitar he is holding, and starts to sing. And from that moment Elvis goes into a frenzy.

His shoulders jump. His diaphragm heaves. His face twitches, and his eyes glaze. And every third bar his long legs in their tight jeans suddenly buckle and straighten like bowstrings.

Elvis has made entertainment out of a vocal and physical paroxysm.

His combination of tantrum, twitch, and devilish dancing have made him a colossal fortune. He is the richest and most successful case of nerves in the history of Tin Pan Alley.

ELVIS—FRONTALLY

It acts as the catalyst for all the noise and frenzy of his performance.

It is a small belt with a large buckle, and on the stage you might almost say that he performs around that buckle like a witch-doctor circling a cauldron of potions.

Without it Elvis is as weak in delivery, and as faint in his impact, as Samson, shorn of his hair. He looks like Robert Mitchum's son and sings like Johnny Ray's brother.

I think the teenage population have been cheated by this film. Why, oh why, did they have to give us, for the first time in pictures, this week and woe-unbelieved bit? (COPYRIGHT)

THE MAN WHO HELD THE BOY THAT GOT THE BIRCH

"You usually get it for more serious things—but it doesn't hurt as much as caning."

Even the cost of a flogging has gone up—parents once had to pay only 7s.

FIRST BALLERINA

I WENT along to Claridge's to watch tribute paid to Britain's first prima ballerina, Phyllis Bedells.

It is 30 years since she made her first appearance on the stage—at the age of 13.

Leading members of the ballet world attended a dinner in her honour (I noticed Margot Fonteyn wearing black satin shoes with diamond-studded heels).

There, too, was Miss Euphan MacLaren, who appeared with Phyllis Bedells in that same production of "Alice in Wonderland" in 1906.

Said Miss Bedells, who left the stage to teach ballet, numbered among her pupils Fonteyn and Moira Shearer.

"Euphan has given me a tiny doll dress as a memento of the first dance we did together... I was a cornflower."

I left them together in a corner of the room... trying to remember the steps they did 50 years ago...

ROMANTIC

I WAS invited to what I was promised would be a "romantic week-end on the river." I was the guest of a young couple living in that colony of houseboats in the Thames off Chelsea.

Romantic? That's what the houseboaters say. They include a doctor, a lawyer, stage folk—Dorothy Tutin used to live there—a B.B.C. producer, medical students.

My host and hostess piloted me in the dark—in half a gale and driving rain—across a heaving slippery causeway of narrow planks linking the boats.

"A little dangerous, but so cheap," my hostess purred. "The mooring costs just £1 a week. No rates to pay."

"We have the telephone, electricity, bottled gas... and of course it's so romantic."

We sat in a lurching, creaking "drawing-room" just 8ft. by 12ft., balancing Frankfurters and glasses of red wine, making not-very-funny jokes about the drip-pan.

"We have 50 leaks in the roof and only 20 saucers to catch the drips," said my host.

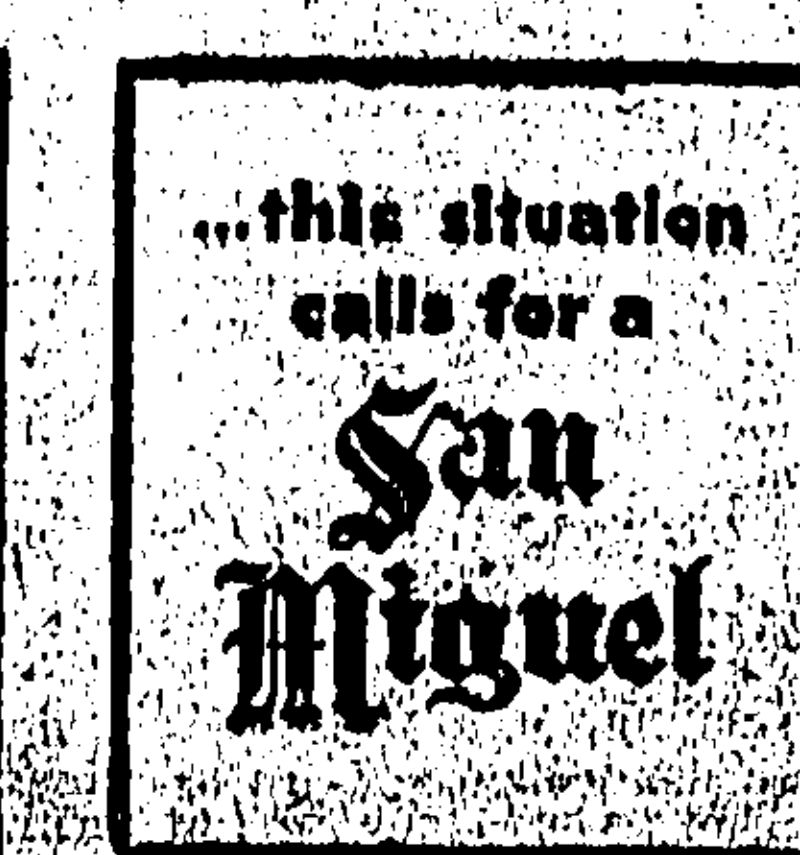
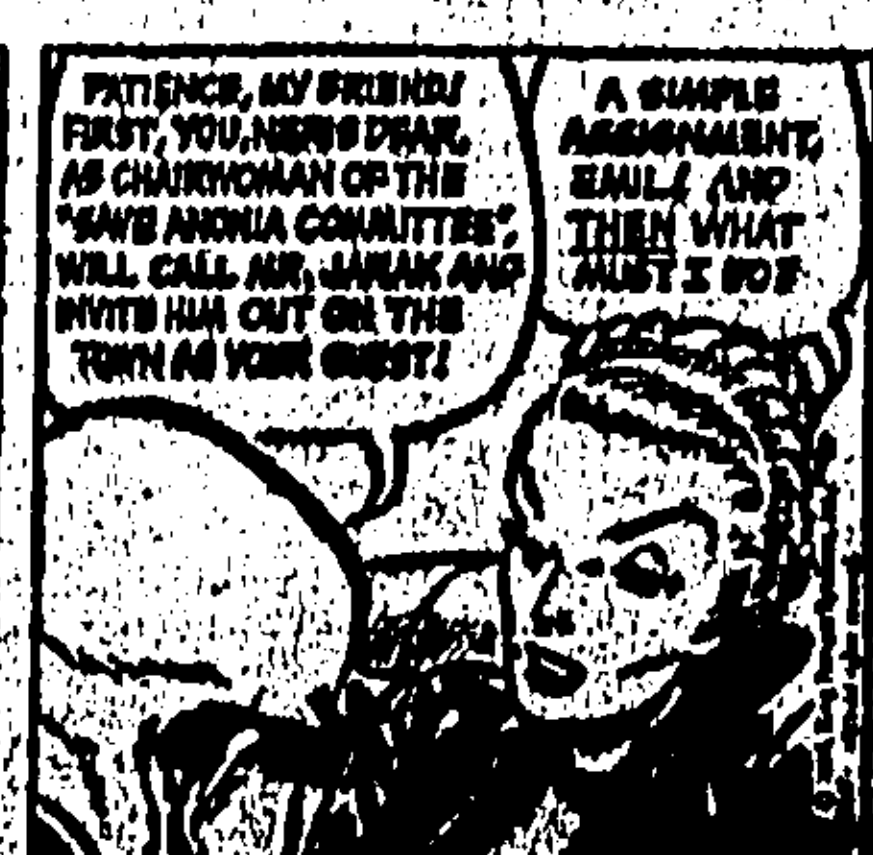
Over breakfast next morning we heard a loud splash, followed by shouts. Our next-door neighbour, Mr. Arthur Lee, a school-teacher, had fallen overboard while adjusting his mooring.

We helped him out—and got ourselves plastered with mud.

Mr. Lee's remarks were far from romantic.

I share his views. (COPYRIGHT)

JOHNNY HAZARD



...this situation calls for a San Miguel

SPRING STYLES FROM ITALY

[illegible]

pinkies were slightly pale in tone and red tended towards the lobster hues. Blues were dark and deep. The favourite background colour for patterned fabrics was white, with patterns such as a pink and grey fine check, or lemon yellow and pale blue Glen Urquhart check.

★

Among the fabrics used were light wool gabardines, Shetland wool crests with much of

really remarkable results in the removal of scars and skin pits due to acne and other skin blemishes. The operations are usually performed by dermatologists, which is to say, medical specialists in diseases of the skin.

petrol, shelter, come in strange sales gimmicks. A manufacturer promises that the first 100 customers who buy his thousand-pound luxury car will receive a share of the profits. The car is sold at a price that leaves the manufacturer with a loss. The car is sold at a price that leaves the manufacturer with a loss. The car is sold at a price that leaves the manufacturer with a loss.



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the purchase of
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THE annual dinner of the Banquet de l'Indo-Chine Cercle Sportif was held at the Ying King Restaurant. During the evening, prizes and gifts were presented to members and guests by Mrs Kwok Chan. Picture shows Mr J. L. Morin receiving a prize. On Mrs Kwok's left is Mr Samuel Shiu, Chairman of the club. (Staff Photographer)



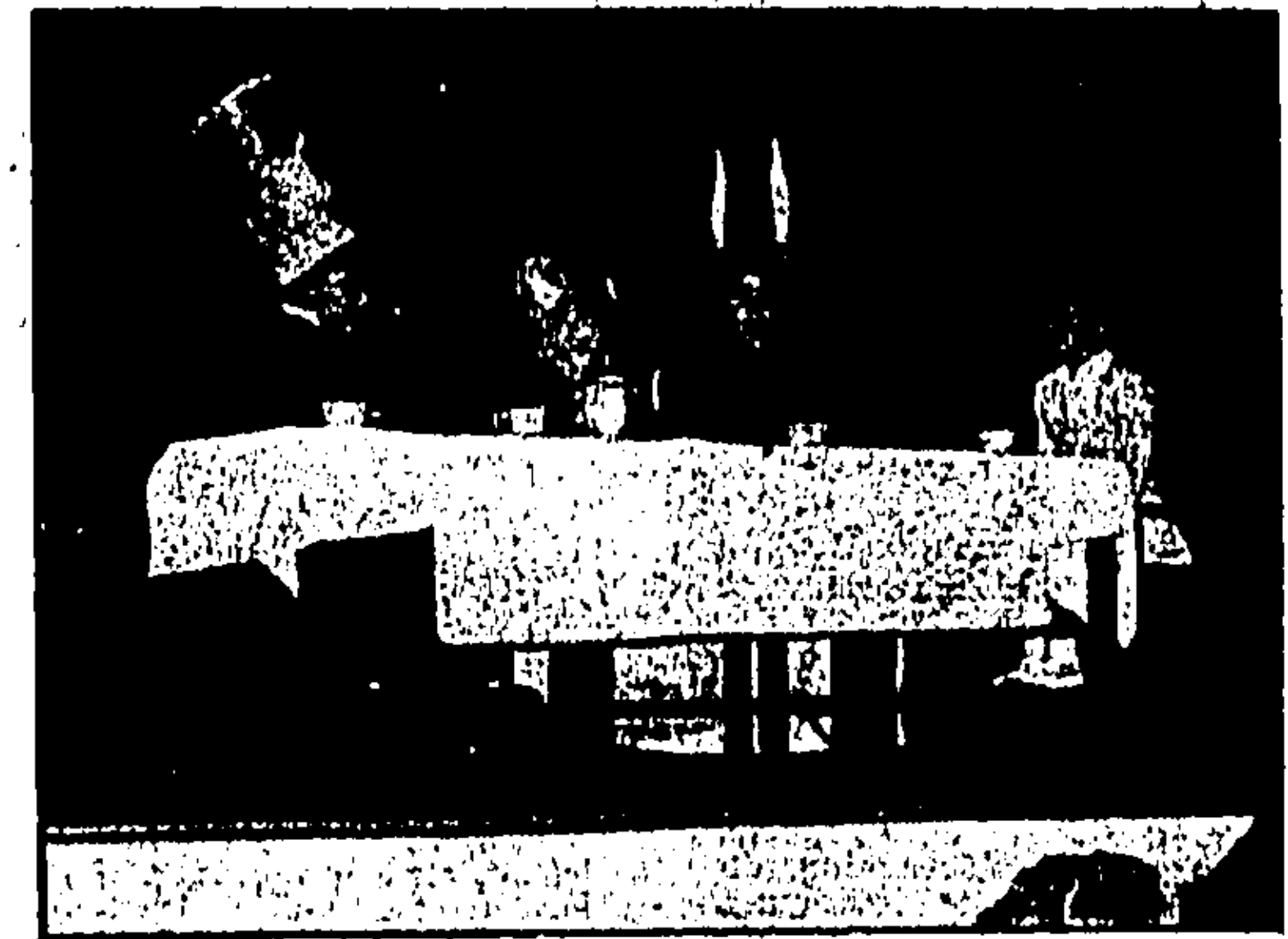
RIGHT: Santa Claus with his bag of toys and gifts and one of the many happy kiddies who attended the Australian Association's Christmas party for children at the Kowloon Cricket Club. (Staff Photographer)



MR Arthur Bishop, President of the World Federal Government Movement, explaining the aims at a gathering of the Hongkong University Alumni Association Forum, at which he was guest speaker. From left: Miss Liu Yiu-chu, Mr Bishop, Mr C. C. Leo (President), and Mrs Bishop. (Staff Photographer)



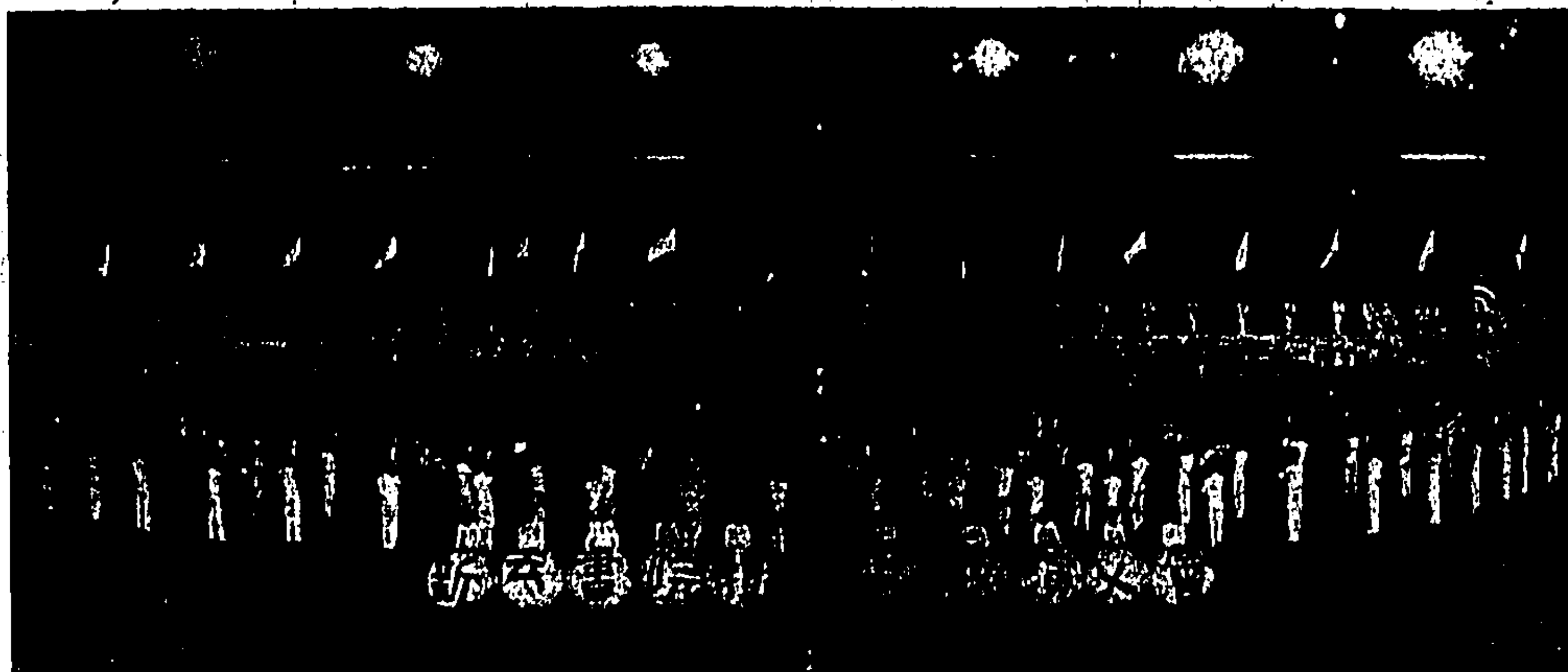
MR and Mrs Leonard Alfred George McDonnell Green at the reception given at the Hongkong Club following their wedding at the Registry, Supreme Court. The bride was Miss Elizabeth Gertrud Christal Wood. (Staff Photographer)



THE Mad Hatter's Tea Party in the "Alice in Wonderland" sketch given by children of the Victoria Primary School during their Christmas concert. (Staff Photographer)



MRS R. H. Robertson distributing prizes at the first speech day and prizegiving of the Jockey Club Primary School. (Staff Photographer)



STUDENTS of the New Method College snapped during their physical training display given under floodlights at the South China Athletic Association stadium last week. (Staff Photographer)

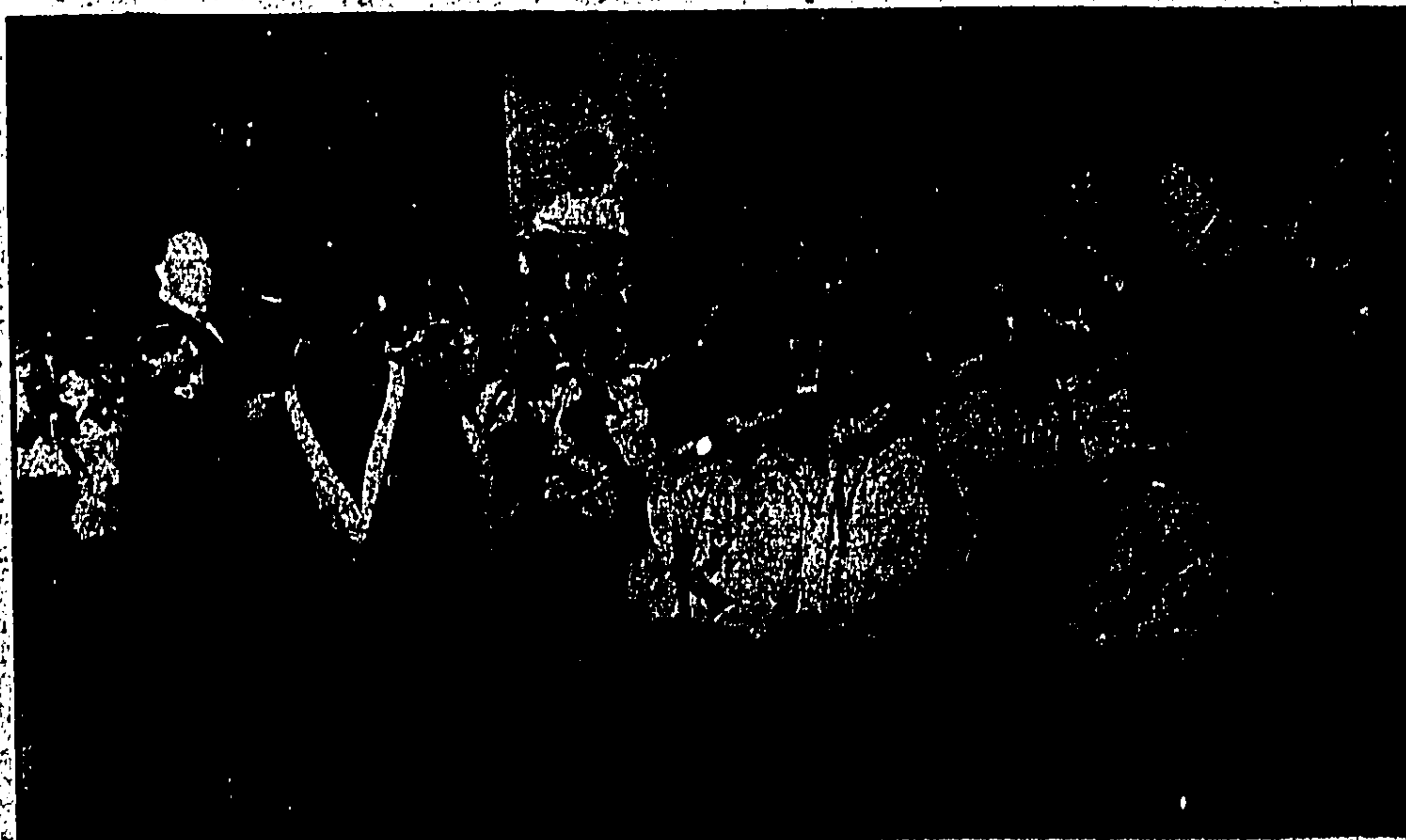


LEFT: Enjoying a Chinese concert programme at the European YMCA. These Servicemen were part of a large number who sat down to a big Christmas dinner before the show. (Staff Photographer)



MR Sidney Allen and his bride, formerly Miss Elsie Hill, leaving the Marriage Registry, Supreme Court, after their wedding last Saturday. (Staff Photographer)

BELOW: His Excellency the Governor and Lady Grantham with the Choir of St John's Cathedral who went to Government House to sing carols last week. (Staff Photographer)



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KOWLOON Cricket Club members who acted as waits and led the community singing at the Club's Christmas dance. (Staff Photographer)



MR Carl Myatt, 1956 table tennis and darts champion of the South China Morning Post Staff Club, receiving the trophies he won from the Hon. C. Blaker, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the South China Morning Post, Ltd., during the Club's Christmas Eve tiffin party. (Staff Photographer)



MR Peter Plumbly and Miss Camille Wai, who were married at the Registry on Thursday, pictured at their wedding reception given at the Gloucester Hotel. (Staff Photographer)

BELOW: Annual inspection of Mainland Divisions of the St John Ambulance Brigade by the Area Commissioner, Mr H. F. Shields. The inspection took place last Sunday in the grounds of Kowloon Hospital. (Staff Photographer)

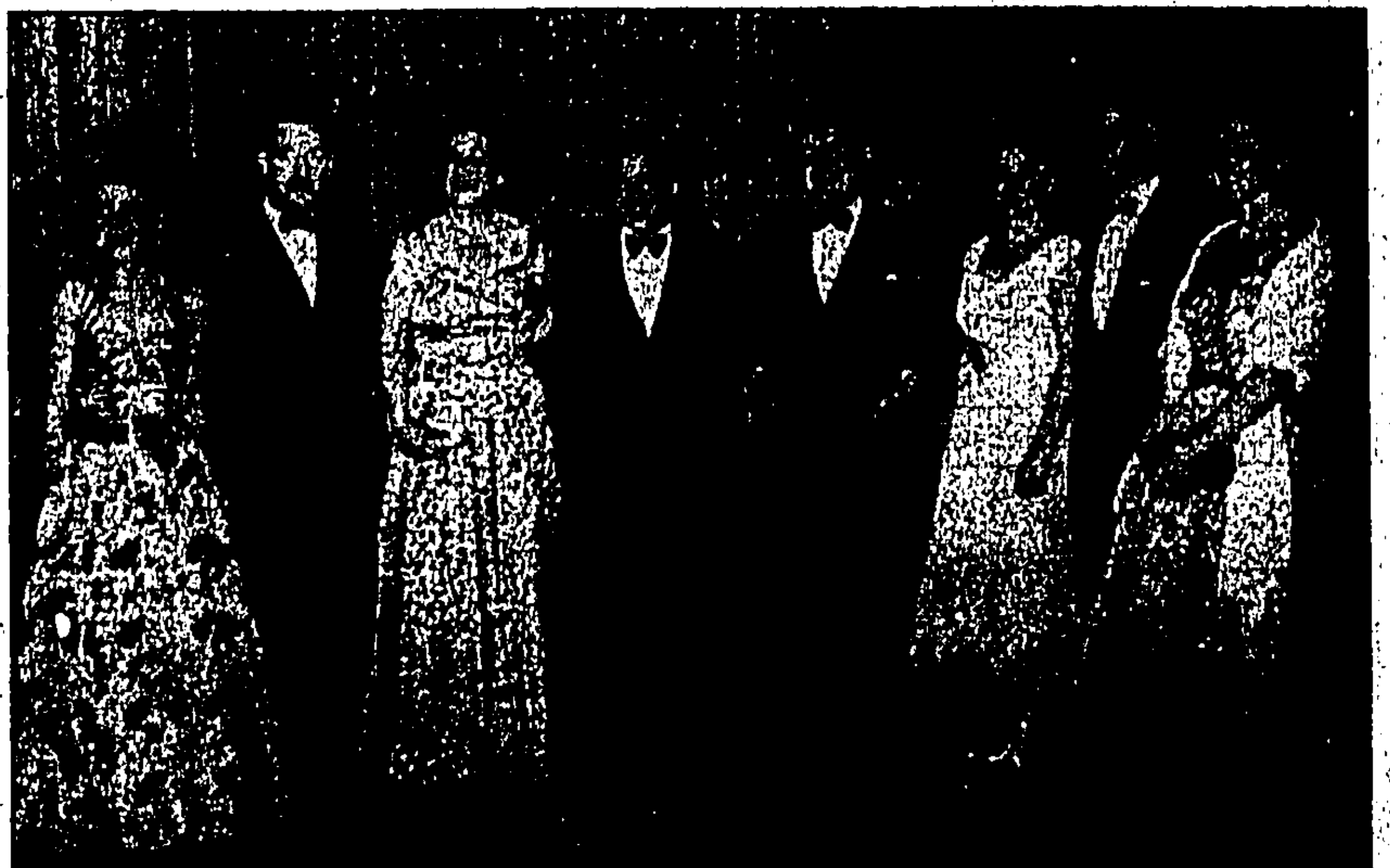


THE Band of the South China Morning Post Sports Association playing on the ferry to Cheung Chau during the Association's annual Boxing Day excursion to the island. Mr Fung Ki-shui is the conductor. (Staff Photographer)

BELOW: Fancy dress soccer match played on Christmas Day at the Chatham Road Transit Camp between the Officers and NCO's and an Other Ranks team. (Staff Photographer)



MR Loong Ping-tong (right), Chairman of the Board of the Tung Wah Hospitals, being handed the trowel with which he laid the foundation stone of the new school building of the Vernacular Normal Schools Alumni Association. (Staff Photographer)



AT the Christmas dinner dance of the Canadian Club of Hongkong. From left: Mrs Dunlop, Mr C. M. Forsyth-Smith (Canadian Trade Commissioner), Mrs T. F. M. Newton, Mr Roy G. Dunlop (President of the Club), Mr T. F. M. Newton (Canadian Minister to Japan), Mrs Forsyth-Smith and Mr and Mrs W. M. Minor. (Staff Photographer)



LEFT: Mrs W. H. Stratton, wife of the Commander, British Forces, distributing gifts of sweets to poor children at the Kowloon Indian Tennis Club last Sunday. (Staff Photographer)



WEDDING at the Registry last Saturday of Mr Rolf Hermann Otto Schultz and Miss Myra Wong. (Staff Photographer)



MISS Keung Pui-yuan, of South China Athletic Association, clearing the last hurdle to win the 80 metres hurdles event at the second open meeting of the Hongkong Amateur Athletic Association last Sunday. (Staff Photographer)

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★ ★ ★

BED CUSHION

MATERIALS: Conis Chain next ch) 40 times (41 sps Mercer-Crochet No. 20 (20 1/2 in. selected colour. 1 cushion. Millwards steel Crochet Hook No. 3. (Black workers could use a No. 3 1/2 hook and tight workers a No. 2 1/2).

TENSION: 5 sps and 5 rows = 1 in. (2.5 cm.).

MEASUREMENTS: 1 square = 8 in. (20.3 cm.) approx.

ABBREVIATIONS: ch—chain; tr—treble; sp—space = 2 ch, miss 2 ch or tr, 1 tr into next ch or tr; blk—black; 4 tr, plus 3 tr for each additional blk in group.

DIRECTIONS

Commence with 128 ch. 1st Row: 1 tr into 8th ch from hook, (2 ch, miss 2 ch, 1 tr into

next ch) 40 times (41 sps made), 5 ch, turn.

2nd Row: Miss first tr, 1 tr into next tr (sp made over sp), (2 tr into next sp, 1 tr into next tr) 39 times (39 blks made over 39 sps), 2 ch, miss 2 ch, 1 tr into next ch (sp made over sp), 5 ch, turn.

3rd Row: 1 sp, 1 tr into each of next 3 tr (blk made over blk), (2 ch, miss 2 tr, 1 tr into next tr) 37 times (37 sps made over 37 blks), 1 blk, 1 sp, 5 ch, turn.

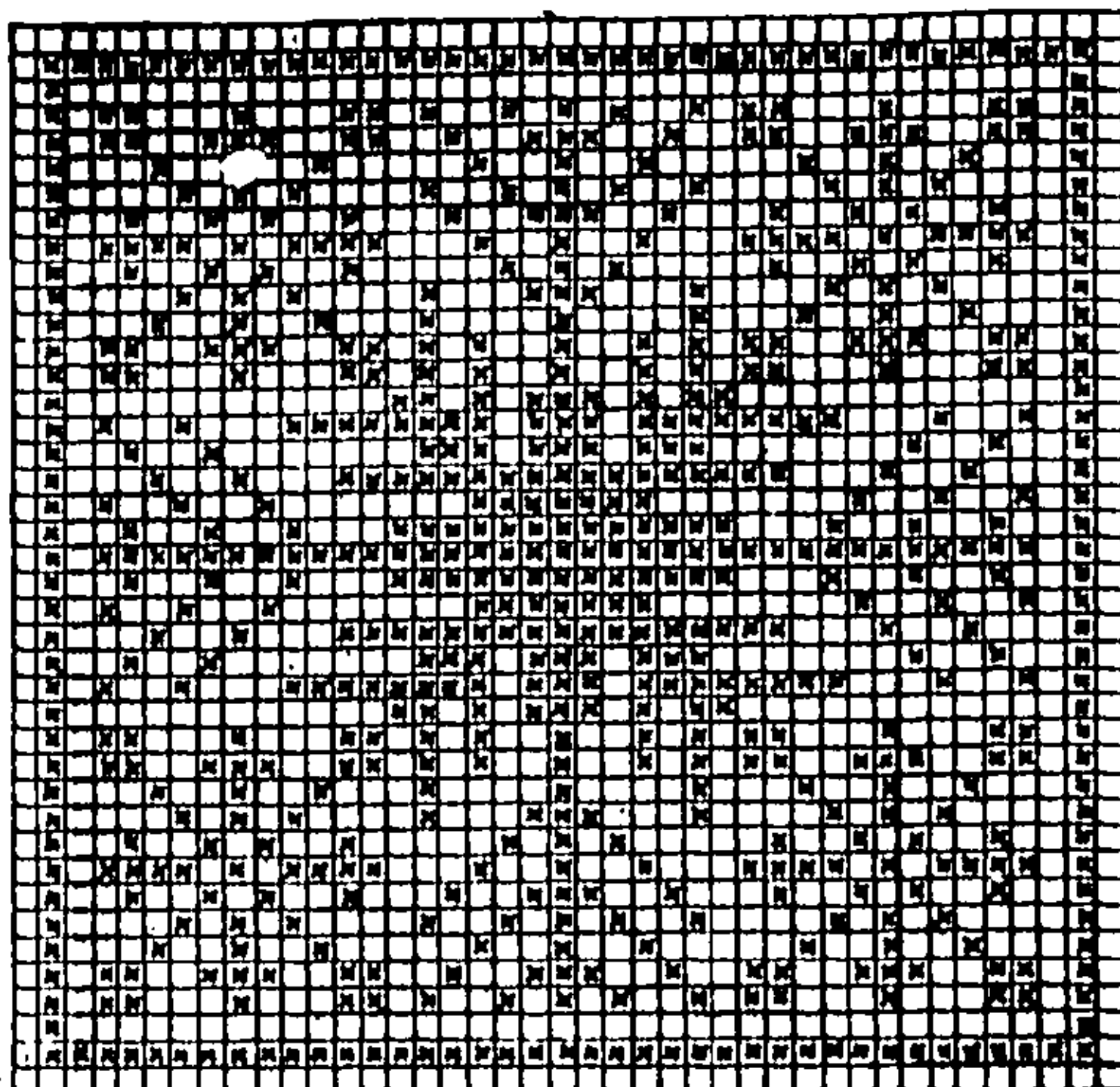
Follow diagram from 4th row to top.

Fasten off.

Make other 4 pieces the same.

Mount crochet squares to cushion as shown in illustration, and cut surplus material at back.

Damp and press.



DIAGRAM



Last week Helen Burke took a look at a bachelor cooking the dinner. Today it is the turn of a bachelor girl.

A SLAP-UP DINNER IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR A WELL-PLANNED MEAL

Says JOCASTA INNES

London. THE only gadget my kitchen stocks is a tin-opener, latest model. This is the one-utensil which an unpretentious chef like myself cannot do without.

Usually I enter my kitchen as reluctantly as a prisoner stepping into a punishment cell. Actual cooking time by my Method involves a minimum five minutes' imprisonment between wall and gas ring.

The result is that when I found myself landed unexpectedly with the preparation of a full-scale dinner party for five, I panicked and rang Helen Burke for advice.

After a lot of argument on both sides, the menu we planned was Avocado pear, Sole Veronique with spinach and mashed potatoes, and fruit salad. This suited Helen's ideas of a slap-up dinner and my frankly realistic ideas of What Could Be Managed.

But that's unimaginative, dear," Helen objected to my suggestion of fruit salad. "You haven't seen my kitchen yet," I pointed out, over-ruling painful alternatives like Chocolate Mousse and tudding a la Reine.

When Helen finally basted in on the night (I allowed a full hour for preparations before the guests' arrival) she caught me furtively unwrapping two packets of frozen place. Inexperienced in the devilish ways of my local fishmonger I found, the other day, when I did my shopping, that he was closed and my fillets of fresh sole unobtainable.

NO BONES?

"You can't make Sole Veronique with frozen place," said Helen witheringly. "To begin with you must have the bones and skin to boil up for stock."

Then she relented. "Never mind," she said, "we'll improvise. Never be afraid to improvise." And we were off.

One short cut to large-scale cooking without tears, I learned, is to work out a time schedule so that slow-cooking items (in my case the already peeled potatoes) can be left on the boil while the next dish is prepared. Under Helen's watchful eye I seasoned the fillets with salt and pepper and arranged them in layers on a buttered oven dish.

"This is where you should have used fish stock as a base," Helen commented, pouring a cupful of white wine mixed with

water from the potatoes over the fish.

"Now some buttered greaseproof paper, dear, to cover them with," she ordered.

I explained that greaseproof paper, along with wooden spoons, egg-whisks and mixing bowls were the little luxuries I hadn't permitted myself. But a good chef is never defeated. After a thorough inspection of my waste bin, Helen emerged with a tiny scrap of crumpled greaseproof paper and slapped it, heavily disguised in butter, over the fillets which she set to cook at a moderate heat—4 on my cooker.

SPECIALISTS

The fruit salad came next, as it involved dicing up a melon, and should be allowed to stand so as to get the maximum flavour from the fruit. After adding my own hit-or-miss mixture of minced guavas, melon and grapes to a base of ready-prepared fruit salad I gave it that professional touch with a small bottle of Cointreau.

A dozen grapes, which I was made to peel, were set aside to give the "Veronique" to my place.

Reassuring ourselves that the fish were not quite done ("They should be opaque and firm") I turned my attention to mashing potatoes. With all modesty I must explain that mashed potatoes are my speciality. Even rudimentary cooks are vain as peacocks over their specialities. A liberal amount of butter and milk should be heated separately and added, a trickle

at a time, to the mashed potatoes—boiling constantly to eliminate lumps and produce a detergent whiteness.

The guests had all arrived by now and were chafing impatiently in the sitting-room. "One last effort and it's done," said Helen with the encouraging air of a trainer cooking a last sprint out of an expiring Channel-swimmer.

AN EFFORT

It was quite an effort. We lined up all the necessities in order of appearance. We drained all liquid from the fish, added one oz. of butter, and reduced it to a syrup by simmering in an open saucepan.

"In case you are ever asked, this is called a fumee," said Helen helpfully, pouring the fumee over the fish. I was allowed to arrange the grapes artistically round the dish, which we pushed under the grill to brown.

The meal, which took one and a quarter hours to prepare and cost about £2 (for five people), vanished in under five minutes per course. But even allowing for the gross flattery of amassing lips and theatrical sighs, it was clear that there is no substitute for a well-planned meal, properly cooked.

And simply to forestall protests that anyone could do it with Helen Burke at their side, I might add that the gastronomic triumph of the evening was the mashed potatoes. Cooked, if you remember, entirely by me.

.....VERDICT: By HELEN BURKE.....

UNLIKE Marius Pope, who cooks "by ear" [December 18, Page 5] Jocasta Innes cooks by the book. And compared with the meal Marius served, hers was almost testorial to begin with.

She knew the menu she wanted and why. Avocado pear, because she likes them; Sole Veronique because it is her favourite dish (although her forgetfulness forced us to use place in the end); fruit salad because she's a busy working girl, it is an easy dish.

Jocasta was out on timing and routine. For instance, as the avocado pears came first on the menu she wanted to prepare them first, but quietly agreed when I pointed out they turned black when cut and, therefore, are a last-minute job.

She was a little sad to find there was no cream in my recipe for the fish. So I decided to add some and an egg, too. She beat three tablespoons of cream with the whole egg (unwhipped, of course, but what would she do with one egg white?), added a little of the fish stock, turned the mixture into a small pan and warmed it over a low heat to thicken the sauce slightly.

All of us voted the meal a great success. I have never eaten better whipped potatoes. The coffee was first class. We never even thought of the missing sole.

Decorators Go Slow On Colour

By ELEANOR ROSS

AFTER all the emphasis and excitement about colour in the home, it is interesting to note that two of the latest model room exhibits go slow on colour and, in keeping with the subdued state of things, use simple window treatments.

Neutral tones and whites and off-whites are favoured by one decorator. Where colour is employed, she uses it sparingly but with excellent judgment. Colours are used in paintings, in lamps, as part of the design in a few throw rugs.

For the rest, the effect of neutral settings is pleasant and certainly relaxing. The monochromatic colour schemes certainly do "look new and different." For contrast, the decorator used darker woods for the furniture, most of it very good and attractive modern.

BEIGE CURTAINS

Much admired was a bed-rattling room with walls and handsome draw curtains of pale beige, wall-to-wall carpeting a sharp yellow. At the foot of the bed, a Moroccan type rug is in beige, yellow and white stripes.

Beautiful and rarely beautiful is a bedroom with walls completely covered with an exquisite damask fabric in a neat geometric design of beige and white. The bed-spread is of the same fabric. For an original idea, there's a satiny beige rug in front of the beautiful dressing table that has a centre design of four sculptured motifs taken from the damask. A couple of handsome chests are acquired in white.

Beautifully upholstered furniture and woods of glowing colour in subdued settings make another exhibit noteworthy. The pieces are of the traditional type, expert reproductions and adaptations of 18th century English, French and Italian Directoire. The furniture has been brilliantly placed to show how well it is suited to modern living.

MODERN FEELING

Every room boasts an antique chandelier and there is usually one painted piece. Yet, the whole setting has a modern feeling that is both elegant and charming.

What we admired so much was the way chests, buffets and tables were handled in the modern way with brass, cane, marble, slate, gilt or black lines or decorations.

The latest shade of green in winter fashions is the green of loden cloth, and this is used, too, in upholstery fabric colours.

In one room, there is a handsome combination of loden green and pink. Tables are of yew wood and mahogany. There's a black and oyster-white cabinet and a handsome sofa of black and cream striped satin but no vibrant colour anywhere!

INCLUDE "SAMBEES" IN HOLIDAY REFRESHMENTS

By IDA BAILEY ALLEN

"FOR New Year's refreshments, I suggest petits fours with your new beverage, the Sambee, Madame," remarked the Chef. "A good choice, Chef," I agreed, "for both of them sparkle with flavour. And how gay they'd look arranged on a table with a centrepiece of colourful balloons, masks, confetti and fringed New Year's horns."

Sambees: Spoon 2 tbsp. mixed frozen fruits or frozen strawberries in the bottom of a glass. Fill with chilled orange juice. Top with a scoop of lime ice and serve garnished with sprigs of fresh mint.



NEW YEAR'S party refreshments include Sambees, a fruited drink made of frozen berries and ice and served in footed glasses.

To bring a "festa" touch to the table, the Sambees might be served in tall, footed glasses, decorated in pink, gold and chamois grey. New Year's Day dinner should be a bit glamorous, but still substantial and fairly simple, for, by the end of a week of feasting, appetites are usually jaded.

New Year's Dinner

Avocado Tomato Juice Cocktail
Roast Beef Gravy
Whipped Potato
Buttered Asparagus
Blossom Sherbet Lady Fingers
Coffee
All Measurements Are Level
Recipes Proportioned to Serve 4 to 6
Blossom Sherbet Use sherbet of three different colours: lime, raspberry and orange.
Arrange a small scoop of each in a deep sauce dish.
Pass lady fingers.



NEW YEAR'S party refreshments include Sambees, a fruited drink made of frozen berries and ice and served in footed glasses.

Longer Life Where You Tread

—AND IT'S EASIER ON THE POCKET

I WONDER how many men and women (especially women) have "aired their views" (both in print and in the ordinary way of conversation) on the most difficult period that a married couple has to face. The number must be legion.

Most people seem to feel that the first year of marriage is the testing time,

when newlyweds have to learn to "give and take," to accustom themselves to one another's foibles after the initial rose-coloured bloom of Romance has become a little dimmed.

But I am not a newlywed. I am a "veteran" of twenty years' standing, and in my own case I am beginning to feel that the most difficult days of marriage are at hand now. Not because I have any fault to find with the one who stood at the altar with me a score of years ago, for we are still a happy pair. Our affection for one another hasn't worn thin.

★ ★ ★

On the other hand, some of the furnishings in our home have worn very thin indeed, and the cost of renewing them is biting into our savings. That's why I say that this twentieth year of partnership is not by any means the easiest one we have known, and I think many who have been married for a like number of years will probably agree that the time when a home begins to look happy is the time when husband and wife might be excused for wearing a frown.

Which brings me to the new floor-coverings we have just bought to the opening move in a campaign to restore our good-humour.

Carpets, of course, are just about the hardest-worked items in the contents of a house. The first floor-coverings we owned were of good quality and served us pretty well, but I realise now they could have served us even better had we taken expert advice on how to treat them.

Here are some hints that have been given to me on how to minimise wear and tear and lengthen the life of a carpet. I pass them on so that you, too, can avoid from them and get the best value for your money.

★ ★ ★

First of all it is important that your floors should be smooth and level. Loose or badly-fitting boards are relentless enemies of a carpet. Where they exist beneath a carpet, the day-to-day pressure that comes from walking over them will ultimately produce threadbare strips.

Old tacks and nails in the floor-boards must be removed, too. They can lead to damage,

It is important, too, that you should have a good underlay beneath your carpet. This will save a great deal of unnecessary wear, besides giving a luxurious feeling of thickness underfoot. You can buy an underlay in felt, or in latex rubber. Old carpeting or newspapers don't make satisfactory substitutes for an underlay, and you will not save money in the long-run by resorting to such devices.

When your carpet has been laid, don't clean it too enthusiastically during the first few weeks of its life in your home. A gentle brushing from time to time is the best course of treatment in the early stages. But don't worry if a wool pile carpet sheds some stray tufts or loose ends, for this is quite normal.

Never tug out any tuft that rises above the level of the pile. If it seems unsightly to you, trim it to the level of the pile with a pair of scissors.

After those first few weeks, run your vacuum cleaner over the carpet once a week, no more. A light brushing should suffice for daily cleaning. Incidentally, ensure that you leave the pile of the carpet sloping in its natural direction after each cleaning.

Manufacturers stress that carpets should be kept free from grit. I have also been warned against too much traffic by foot-soled and rubber-soled shoes, and also shoes with metal studs or heel-tips of course.

★ ★ ★

The predatory activities of insect-life can be offset by a once-a-year spraying of the entire surface of the carpet with one of the proprietary fluids made for the purpose, and containing D.D.T.

Rugs are recommended to protect a carpet from constant wear on one particular area—in front of a fireplace, for instance. Rearrangement of carpets, unless they are of the fitted variety, is another piece of good advice, and will equalise the wear on them. In the case of fitted carpets, rearrangement of the furniture can often help in reducing the effect of too much traffic over particular strips. Stair-carpet, naturally, should be rearranged at regular intervals, and never allowed to remain in the one position so long that they become threadbare at the edges of the treads.

One special point: Don't neglect any part of a carpet that may be under a heavy article of furniture. See that it is treated with the same care that you give to the visible areas, for in those hidden places dirt and dust will collect and insect-life will thrive.

Turban Hat

MATERIALS: 3 ozs Golden Eagle Chunkyknit. One pair needles size 1.

MEASUREMENTS: To fit average head.

TENSION: 0 1/2 stitches and 8 1/2 rows to 2 square inches over stocking stitch.

ABBREVIATIONS: K, knit; P, purl; tog, together; st(s), stitch(es); st-st, Stocking stitch; rep, Repeat.

Cast on 86 sts. Work 2 rows, k.1, p.1 ribbing. K.2 rows plain.

3th row: K. to the last 4 sts. Turn.

4th row: P. to the last 4 sts. Turn.

5th row: K. to the last 4 sts. Turn.

6th row: P. to the last 4 sts. Turn.

7th row: K. to the last 4 sts. Turn.

8th row: P. to the last 4 sts. Turn.

9th row: K. to end.

10th row: K. Repeat from 5th to 10th rows inclusive, once.

Work 5 rows at-st.

11th row: K.

12th row: * K.1, K.2 tog, rep. from * to end (42 sts.).

13th row: P.

14th row: * K.1, K.2 tog, rep. from * to end.

15th row: P.

16th row: * K.1, K.2 tog, rep. from * to end.

17th row: P.



31st row: * K.1, K.2 tog, rep. from * to end.

32nd row: P.

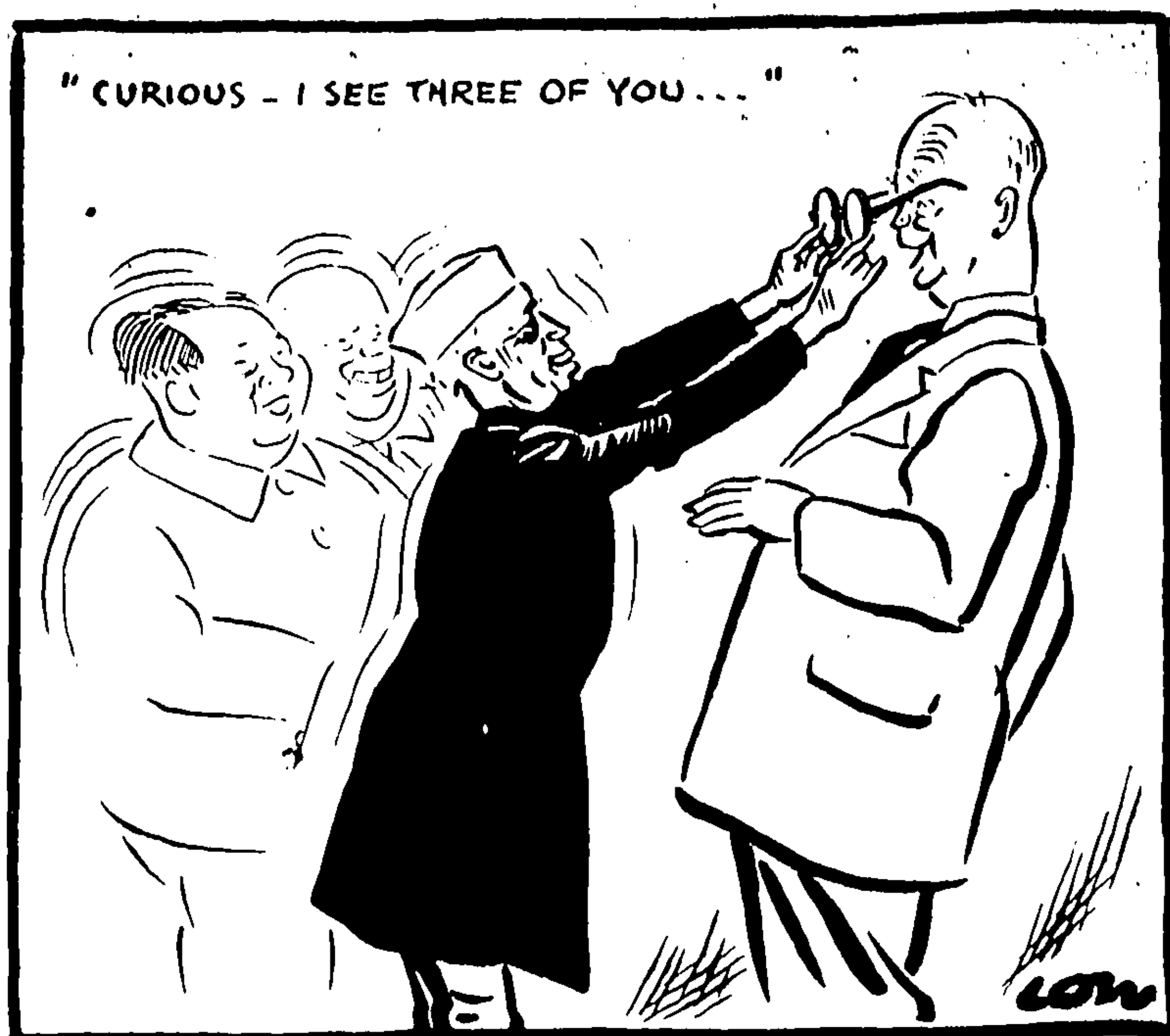
Break off and thread wool through remaining 14 sts. On wrong side sew back seam from crown to 3rd ridge, then fasten off.

Take another skein of wool; open it out and cut and sew through all strands. Take out new 14 stitches.

one strand for sewing, then tie all strands together at one end to secure.

Divide into 8, then proceed to plait the 8 and to secure plait.

Pin this into position, round edge of hat, taking it up back seam, then all round plait ridge at crown, and again to form double strand back in same way through all strands. Take out new 14 stitches.



THROUGH INDIAN GLASSES

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A NEW POLICY FOR THE TORIES

By Viscount HINCHINGBROOKE
Conservative MP for Dorset South

IF Britain was a world Power in July, she is a world Power today: it is absurd to say that we have been fatally weakened by the Suez fiasco.

All that has happened is that a certain number of leading Ministers lost their sense of direction at the critical moment.

The facts of our prosperous national life, the facts of our immense overseas trading position, the facts of our large resources of manpower and diplomacy remain the same. Nothing has changed. Nothing has been lost except courage in high places.

The Suez debacle, however, makes it clear that methods of deploying our strength must be drastically changed.

The Tory Party has to reassess its power and faith against the anguished queries of Liberal and Socialist, many of them declared opponents of the British way of life at home and overseas.

What should be the articles of our faith and the points in an immediate programme to express it?

THE STATE

THIS must alter its relations with the people. The attitude of individuals towards Government departments is turning from cynicism to hatred. We are not far from Pougadism.

Compulsory purchase laws must be revised. Compensation must assume more generous proportions.

Taxation of income and capital must be substantially reduced. Postwar credits and other such pledges and obligations immediately repaid or honoured.

The State must withdraw from "purposive direction" of our economy.

Subsidies of selected industries and sectional groups must be reduced. They are putting the sociology of the professional and artisan classes under heavy strain. Disillusionment and jealousy are spreading.

This system of grants or rebates against a means test in housing, education, and pensions is a Marxist conception and should be brought to an end.

There must be a fulfilment of our long-held beliefs on the differentiated society.

State and business salaries and pensions must be restored to something approaching the pre-1914 differentials. Too many in the middle-income group feel that the Welfare State is maintained by them but that they get too little out of it.

There is an unhealthy decline in patriotism and love of country and a hopeless feeling that the nation's destiny is beyond the people's grasp.

PROPERTY

THE nationalised industries, and particularly coal, must be taken off the board of Ministers, decentralised, rendered competitive and made subject to the price mechanism and the stock market.

Unit trust schemes should be fostered to canalise savings into shares in these new regionalised industries and also in the industries and services in which the workers are employed.

"Property owning democracy" is not realisable through National Savings, Prudential Bonds and deposits in the Post Office.

A conservatively controlled State would discourage much of this wartime centralised investment and insist on greater variety and choice.

DEFENCE

EXPENDITURE on defence must be heavily reduced. It is illogical to offer the hydrogen weapon as a guarantee against the first-class Powers and at the same time to try to render it ineffective by fabulous systems of defence.

Weapons for small-scale conventional and police wars should be retained. Selective service must be introduced to stand alongside well-paid and well-accommodated Regular forces.

The Anglo-American alliance must be set on a new footing of realistic independence.

Events in Poland and Hungary strongly support the theory of a contracting Russian Empire if pressure is sustained. Hitherto it has been held that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the Organisation for European

Economic Co-operation, and other organisations are the sole means of sustaining this pressure.

ECONOMY

NOW the interference by the U.S. in our actions over Egypt points to the opposite conclusion, namely, that these organisations may be the very means by which British independence is frustrated.

When our national barometer is our reserve of gold and dollars and little else; when exporting to the U.S. is the highest priority of all; when the maintenance of the Sterling Area, the present parity of the pound, and the present price of gold are all declared American interests, one speculates into what dangerous labyrinthine economy British interests have wandered since the war.

A triumph was secured when Britain left the International Wheat Agreement. Can we realise our independence without leaving Britain Woods and letting the pound go free?

Finally there is the United Nations. By exerting our right of veto in the Security Council we declared that our operations in the Canal were a vital British interest.

Within two days we reversed this decision and allowed a United Nations Emergency Force to displace us. To such a pass has Great Britain come—the only great

N EARLY fifty years ago Lenin made a careful analysis of what constitutes a revolutionary situation: he found that not only must the people be unwilling to tolerate conditions any longer, but the rulers too must be rent by schism and "unable to continue in the old way." Those conditions are not common, and in recent years there have been practically no revolutionary situations except where the disintegrating force of a war has loosened the government's grip.

Moreover, since Lenin's time the State has become incomparably more powerful. Totalitarianism has developed the techniques of party and police control on the one hand, and a monopoly of indoctrination on the other.

Events in Hungary have shown that the powerful repressive techniques of totalitarian Communism, apparent to everyone in

By J. E. M. ARDEN

Even after decades of propaganda, the fact that only huge alien forces were able to put down the Hungarian revolt reveals this truth: Communism rules by terror, not consent.

their openly demonstrated strength, have built up against themselves a hidden force of popular feeling which is in its turn more powerful than any revolutionary sentiment of the past.

The unanimity, desperation and courage of the rebels of Budapest had caught up with the power of its oppressors. And the old methods of 1848—barricades, demonstrations and the revolutionary general strike—which had long been considered obsolete in the face of modern weapons, again came into their own.

Even in Hungary, when a large section of the Communist Party could no longer hide from themselves the fact that the economic results of Soviet rule were undeniably disastrous, that the essentials of the Communist programme—collectivisation of agriculture and heavy industrialisation—had brought ruin. At the same time a system in which junior leaders themselves are always in mortal danger, ceased to appeal to many of them.

Faced with the disintegration of the old leadership Moscow tried to build up a new one, a compromise between old Stalinists and rehabilitated dissidents. The hated Rakosi was removed, and though he was replaced by the scarcely less notorious Gero, several anti-Rakosites entered the ruling group, in particular some ex-Social Democratic renegades and Kadar, who had been imprisoned for Titoism.

But the first results of the relaxation were a series of criticisms of government policy by student and intellectual organisations. Events in Poland, where the Titoist "National Communists" had obtained control in the face of Russian pressure and threats, excited the Hungarian population, and student demonstrations began to demand the expulsion of Gero and the return of the "Rightist" Communist, Nagy (then still in disgrace) who had relaxed economic pressure during his brief Premiership in 1953.

The repressive regime was overthrown. The first divisions of Soviet troops it called to its aid were defeated. And only an overwhelming force of Soviet regular formations was able to put down the ill-organised and ill-equipped revolutionaries. But then the Russians found that no one could restore their rule on the old terms.

The split in the ruling class, which Lenin had noted as one of his conditions for revolution,

The students were first joined by workers, and then by the mass of the population. Secret police fired on the crowds, and then, almost immediately, the country was in flames. Gero called in Russian troops and at the same time conceded the Premiership to Nagy.

Most of the army had gone over to the rebels, who demanded simply national freedom, Socialism and free elections. A new government representing the Communists, Social Democrats and peasants was set up, and fighting ceased.

This was an astounding feat—a totalitarian regime backed by a foreign army had, for the first time, been overthrown by its people. How was this possible, even granted the split in the ruling group? The essential point is, without the slightest doubt, that the rising was in every sense a national one. The whole population, Communist and non-Communist, joined in. And the astonishing determination and self-sacrifice shown came from people who quite simply preferred death to a return to Russian rule. They voted against the Kremlin, not just with ballot-papers, but with their lives.

More striking still is the fact that, as even the Soviet-controlled radio transmitters confessed, it was the young people who had grown up under Soviet rule who put up the most desperate resistance. The revolution started with the hand-picked and highly indoctrinated students. It spread to the supposedly favoured workers. And it was supported by the Communist army.

What has been shown is that democracy, in the traditional sense of the word—the desire for the same freedoms that were sought by the revolutionaries of 1848—is still the most vital political force in men's hearts.

J. E. M. Arden is now a university lecturer in European history. Journalistic and teaching assignments have taken him to several East European countries and enabled him to study at first hand the trends of political thought among the workers and intelligentsia.

Just as in Metetrich's time, the Budapest rebels of today and the Marseillais—the old masters of radical democracy. National freedom and free elections were the main demands of the Hungarian revolutionaries. These were supported, again just as in the 19th century, by Socialist demands for the idea of Socialism, too, was once again shown to have a genuine organic existence, having nothing in common with the perversions of it made in the doctrines of totalitarianism.

If the old ideas of revolutionary democracy and Socialism are still capable of gripping a nation, the question arises—what were they fighting against? And we must conclude that the corrupt, brutal and ruinous regime against which the people rose is today's genuine "Reaction"—the authentic successor of Metetrich and Nicholas I, of the legitimists and autocrats of the past.

The simple freedoms are, as in the days of the Holy Alliance, faced with a complicated system of ideological justification, of which the main point is "We know best—do what we tell you," the slogan of oppression throughout history.

Even after decades of barefaced propaganda, the fact that only huge alien forces were able to put down Hungary's citizens reveals this truth—Communism rules by terror, not consent. The Soviet empire is shown to have no roots in the people. Depending on force and fraud alone, and with the fraud detected, it must sooner or later perish.

A GERMAN PRINCE BECOMES BRITISH.... AND POSES A QUERY FOR THE ROYAL HOUSES OF EUROPE

By GEORGE HOGAN

LIVING in the ancient Marienburg Castle near Hanover in Germany is 42 years old Prince Ernest Augustus, head of the Royal House of Hanover and a wartime Panzer officer, whose claim to British nationality has been upheld by the House of Lords, the final judicial authority.

This judgment also gives the right of British protection and nationality to a number of the Prince's kinsmen, who like him are direct descendants of the Princess Sophia, Electress of Hanover and mother of King George I of England. Their number is variously estimated at between 100 and 400 although they may not all claim or desire British passports, they are now entitled to use them.

KAISER ALSO

Under the judgment which upholds an Act of Parliament passed in 1705 to confer English nationality on Princess Sophia and her descendants, it is clear that Kaiser Wilhelm's British sister, in World War I,

was also entitled to call himself British.

Prince Augustus is the male heir of their first George and if the so-called Salic Law had operated in Britain—by which princesses are excluded from the throne—his line would have been reigning in Britain today.

The Act of 1705 under which the Prince claims British citizenship is quite clear. It was enacted in Queen Anne's reign when it was improbable that Her Majesty would leave any children. It states that English nationality would be given to "the Princess Sophia, Electress and Duchess Dowager of Hanover, and the issue of her body and all persons lawfully descending from her, born or hereafter to be born."

This wording is straightforward and unambiguous but controversy arose over the preamble to the Act. This introductory paragraph, which used the quaint phrase "they in Your Majesty's lifetime should be naturalised," seemed to limit the grant of nationality to descendants born before Queen Anne's death in 1714. Thus it was argued in the Queen's Bench in 1919 that

Augustus' claim was first considered in March, 1955 by the court. The Court's decision was, however, reversed by the Court of Appeal in November last year and it is this judgment that has now been confirmed by the Lords.

WHAT IT MEANS

This final ruling means that almost all the royal families in Europe can now claim British nationality, as descendants of the Electress. However, probably only a few of the Prince's kinsmen will take advantage of the privilege, especially as, under the Royal Marriages Act, they should have sought the reigning Sovereign's authority for their alliances.

Failure to do so renders their marriages void under the British legal system and this is a conclusion they may not be willing to chance. It also poses once again that whatever is the sacred duty, about the duties of Queen Anne, the legislation enacted during her reign is certainly not yet dead and has indeed more far-reaching results than the Marriages Act could ever have dreamed.



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POCKET CARTOON
by OSBERT LANCASTER

"All right, as we're on the subject of colonialism, what happened to all those Red Indians?"

BRITISH SONGS ARE VANISHING

WHERE, oh where, has our British song gone? In this week's official list of the 24 best-selling songs put out by the Music Publishers' Association there are 22 American numbers and

two Continental tunes with British lyrics. There is not one all-British hit.

This is in spite of an unprecedented drive of the B.B.C. for the performance of more British material.

Who is responsible for the public lack of interest in the home product? For years now the song-writers have been blaming everyone but themselves. They have said that the Tin Pan Alley publishers are "nothing but American music agents." They have blamed the record companies who, they say, prefer to take ready-made hits from America. They have blamed the artists, the band-leaders, the B.B.C., and even the song-pluggers for their lack of success.

WONDERFUL SHOP WINDOW

They have repeatedly said: "If only our tunes are heard more often, we shall once again have the success we knew in the days of such men as Ray Noble, Horatio Nicholls, Jimmy Campbell, and the others who wrote pop songs which became, and still are, part of the national life."

Well, they have had their wish granted. Their wares have been displayed as never before.

For more than six months now the B.B.C. has given them a wonderful shop window. Five programmes a week called "Our Kind of Music." The result: one song, "A Letter to a Soldier," has created some slight public interest.

Television gave them six monthly programmes devoted to finding a British hit song. The winner, "Everybody Falls in Love with Someone," has yet to cause a stir in song-buying circles. Why? Why?

Because, say the music publishers and the record men together, "The British song-writers are not as good as the Americans." "They have lost touch with the public." "They are still living in 1928!"

"We want British songs," the music business men say. "We want to publish and record them. We can make more money out of them than we can out of Americans, because

we don't have to share our royalties. But sales alive, we've got to stay in business, and, by and large, we can't sell British songs."

The Best-Selling Record lists bear out their statements. Although there are 33 British records in the top 50, all the songs on them are American, with the exception of "My Prayer," which is half-British.

What is the answer? Well, it looks to me as though it is time the "boys of the old brigade" saw the red light. They must realise that the days when they could dash off a song before breakfast are over.

Not that all British song-writers do that. Some of them turn out very fine songs, and they do become hits. There have been a number of these this year.

I am sure that every British performer would be only too delighted to have a first-class home-grown song on which he is prepared to stake his reputation rather than an American song which he has to share with the Frank Sinatra and Nat "King" Cole of this world.

DESPERATE SEARCH

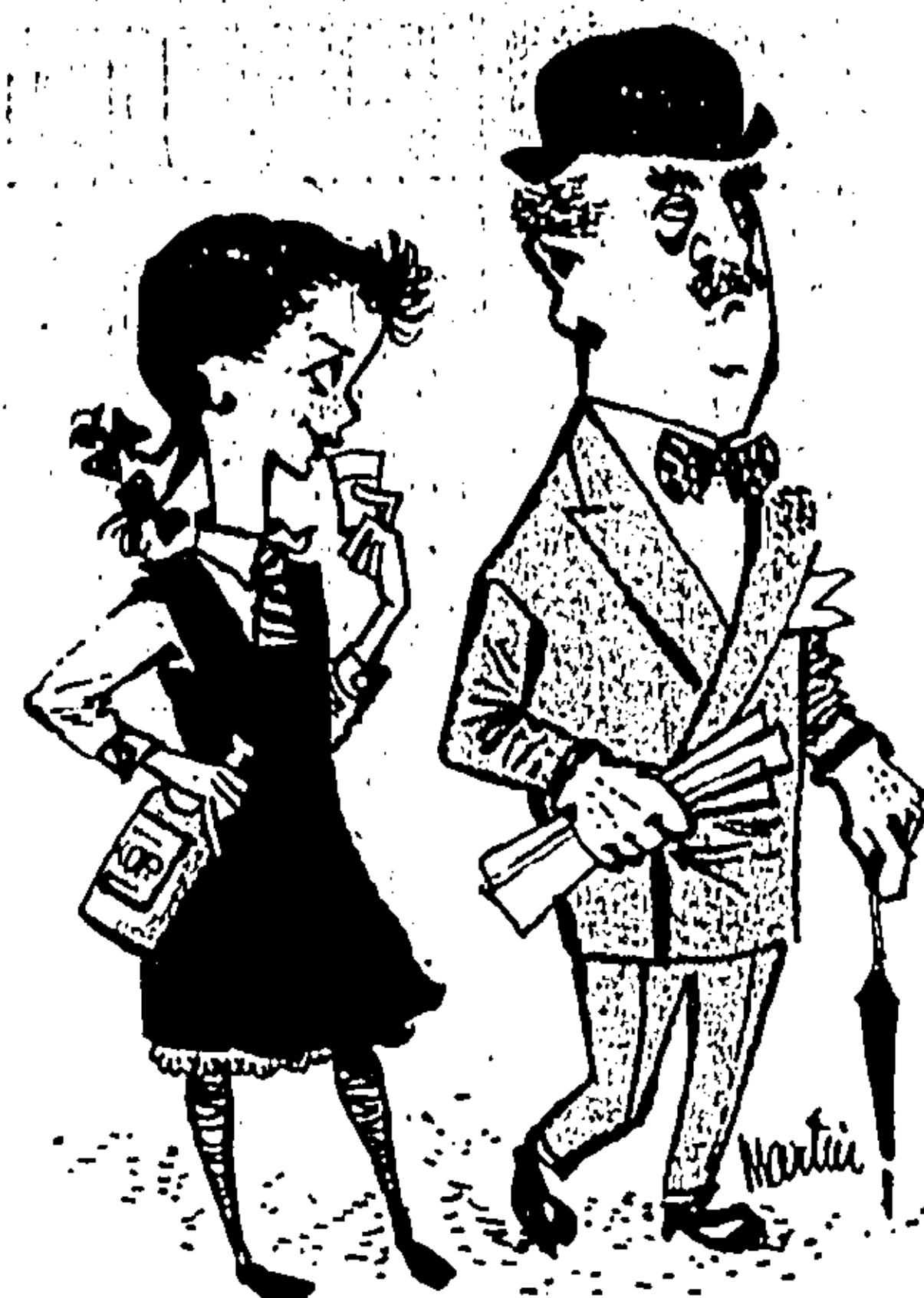
THE search for new talent goes on. Record companies are trying desperately to find a new girl singer.

As soon as someone with any promise at all turns up, they are put on disc and tried out on the public.

Only two weeks ago I heard a private recording made by a girl named Lynne Allison. I thought she had an interesting but inexperienced voice. I thought I might be able to advise her, and invited her to come and see me.

She came last week. With her she brought the tests of her first recordings for Columbia. They have recorded her singing a Pat Boone song called "Mama from the Train."

Personally, I feel they should have waited and given her time to get a little more confidence. But there you are—that's the record business today. Find something new at all costs. Try it out on the public. If it's successful—all well and good. If not—look for someone else.



ROBERT PITMAN on BOOKS

thing more interesting than a sin-laden story with an adolescent heroine. It is a sin-laden story with an adolescent heroine by an adolescent authoress.

In America and Britain the hint has been taken.

Look at America.

There, a young lady called Pamela Moore recently finished a novel not long before her 18th birthday. But her publishers have rushed things through so that it managed to appear on the stalls while she was still 18.

The name of Pamela's novel: "CHOCOLATES FOR BREAKFAST." The name of its little heroine: Courtney Farrell. Courtney's age at the outset—15.

Francisco Sagan's heroine drinks whisky in the Paris cafes. "CHOCOLATES FOR BREAKFAST" (not yet published in Britain) begins with Courtney drinking whisky from a perfume bottle in the school dorm.

And the Liberty Man? He is Derek, a sailor on leave, the brother of one of the tough girls taught by Freda. Derek is distinctly uneducated. He drops all his clichés, combs his hair in company. So Freda tries to mend matters by taking him to symphony concerts. But in the end it is Derek who teaches Freda quite a lot.

Freda, with a man of merit, her own age, is not the true brand of Hungry Young Woman, though she acts hungrily enough.

But in her latest novel Miss Freeman sticks to the formula in every item. It is called "EAT OR BE EATEN" (Longmans, 12s. 6d.). Its dust-jacket depicts a young girl looking wistfully at a flower, but the falling innocent is not any flower-smiling young girl. It is Tom, a decent, middle-aged widower. The sinful woman who topples him from innocence drinking whisky from a perfume bottle in the school dorm. Her age—17.

Says authoress Freeman: "I wanted her to be much younger, but the publishers insisted on 17 as a minimum."

One problem remains. Here we have three young women writing about young women. Who reads about them?

The majority of novel-readers in the past used to be women. Particularly older women. And novels were shaped to suit them.

Remember the mature Balkan queen from Elinor Glyn's romances? They always shared their tiger-skin rugs with pink-cheeked young men straight from Eton and Harrow. And they soothed their matronly public with the thought that, if necessary, any other middle-aged femme could be equally fatale.

The full flood of this fashion was probably reached with Rider Haggard's "SHE," where the mature heroine was several centuries old.

Now the fashion has suddenly changed. Now it is the aging men who have come into their own. Is there a lesson here for the book trade? That bald little man who is browsing round the philosophy shelves—is he just a philosophy addict? Or is he really a secret fan of the Hungry Young Women, looking for a novel on the sly?

THE DORMITORY DECADENTS PULL IN THE CASH

THE teenage girl sipped at her whisky and thought about a man. A tired man. A middle-aged man.

But a man with teasing eyes and a most attractive mouth.

She decided that she would like to grasp his face between her fingers and press the mouth against hers.

But who, you may ask, is this violent young lady with the whisky? She is someone you ought to know.

She is Dominique, student heroine of Francine Sagan's "A CERTAIN SMILE" (Murray, 8s. 6d.), the French novel which is high on the world's best-seller list for 1956.

DETHRONED

Dominique's story has helped to make Francine very rich.

It has helped her to own three cars (a Gordini, a Buick, a Jaguar), two boats, and all the clothes she could ever want. But it has helped her even more than that. It has helped her to dethrone those tedious little people, the Angry Young Men. In their place she

has installed quite another symbol of the age—the Hungry Young Woman.

It is more than a fair exchange.

As heroes of a score of books and plays, the Angry Young Men are bored. They don't even explain what they are angry about. But no one can doubt what makes the Hungry Young Women hungry.

Not young men, mind you. Like the man in "A CERTAIN SMILE," they must be of a certain age.

Recall the example of Dominique.

She, you may remember, had a lover, a student named Bertrand. But she was bored until she met Bertrand's uncle. His age—50. In bathing trunks the uncle looked thin and bent. When he kissed, he kept lifting his head to regain breath. Dominique found him irresistible.

But what has made Francine Sagan irresistible too? What explains her sales (about 1,000,000 copies to date)? The answer is simple enough. When her first novel was published she was only 19. And for some readers if there is one

Then, after she moves to Hollywood, she becomes just the least of Courtney's failings.

So when she screams "I'm decadent, alcoholic at 10," even Courtney's poppa (he resented her not being a little girl any longer) gets a little puffed.

One critic, also puffed, wrote: "Not very long ago it would have been regarded as shocking to find girls in their teens reading the kind of books they're now writing."

But, for all that, "CHOCOLATES FOR BREAKFAST" has sold like crackers at Christmas.

THE FORMULA

How about hungry young women in Britain?

Come with me to a smart little flat in Muswell Hill, the home of their chief champion at the moment—Miss Gillian Freeman.

Two years ago pretty little Miss Freeman wrote her first novel, "THE LIBERTY MAN" (Longmans 10s. 6d.).

She had just been teaching tough young girls at an Ensl End school. The heroine of "THE LIBERTY MAN"—Freda, a teacher of tough young girls in the East End.

FICTION SHELF

By Philip Oakes

● **THE BRAZEN HEAD.** By John Cowper Powys. Macdonald, 18s. Odd goings-on in 13th century Wessex, with a Mongolian giant, wicked barons and ladies fair, all buzzing like gnats on a summer evening around a brazen head made by Friar Roger Bacon to draw fire from heaven. Powys charges his story with gusto and grim hilarity that sprawls towards genius. But the novel runs wild; all but the addicts will lag behind.

● **THE VALLEY, THE CITY, THE VILLAGE.** By Glyn Jones. Dent, 16s. Well-told story about a boy from the valleys who fights off the pliers to become a painter. Half humorous, half yearning; with dialogue as fresh as spring-water. A little unwieldy, after the author's short stories but imagined as a whole, and delivered intact.

● **THREE FOR THE ROAD.** By John S. Chaloner. Hutchinson, 12s. 6d. Petrol-driven hybrid between Three Men in a Boat and Genseric, about three friends who decide to drive across America in a second-hand car. Style rather like letters from absent friends, more anecdotes than narrative, but readable enough; it's a chimney out of way.

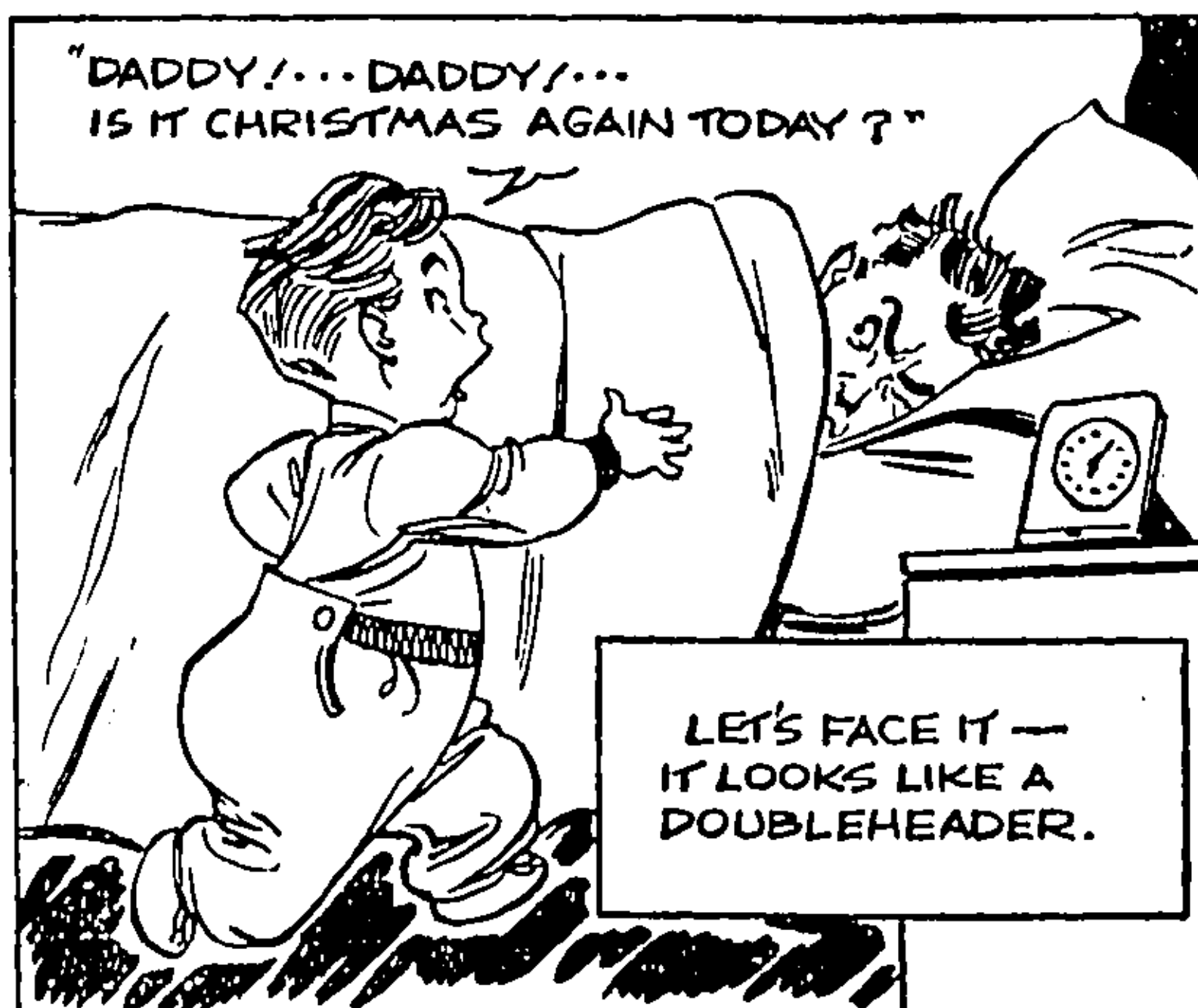
● **MR ARKADIN.** By Oren Weller. Allen, 12s. 6d. Hired by mysterious Mr Arkadin to uncover his shady past, Guy Van Stratten, a man of many discoveries, too late that he is piecing together a pattern for murder. Already filmed (as Confidential Report), the book has the fast, flashy appeal of a second-hand thriller. A cut above the average thriller, but mostly a compound of atmospheric and camera angles.

● **FURTHER FABLES FOR OUR TIMES.** By James Thurber. Hamish Hamilton, 10s. 6d. Forty-seven fables for intelligent adults, with morals drawn from the delings of cats, crows, and chimpanzees, with marginal species, such as the Eragrostis and the Graybody, an occasional parodying of the story, and a witty and final part, with witty and final.

VIGNETTES OF LIFE

The Day After

BY HARRY WEINERT



Famous Sports Stars I Have Met

TOMMY LAWTON
By Archie Quick

Never before have there been so many famous footballers playing outside the League. Attracted by just as good salary and bonus for part-time employment, plus good jobs in the bargain, they have gone in droves these past two years, particularly to the Southern and Midland Leagues. There is little doubt that a combined side from these two organisations would give a Third Division representative eleven a run for their money, and I probably beat them.

Perhaps the greatest of all these current non-Leagueers is Tommy Lawton, one of the few players who is a legend during his active career. Such is the Lawton magic that he has taken Kettering Town from a struggling Southern League position to a proud, unbeaten leadership, with a first-time Championship more than a probability. Moreover, although he is ageing a little these days he has still contrived 13 goals in as many matches. What is more he has the loyalty of his players and that is quite a feat for men who are embittered by non-success in the League can often be most difficult to control. They see their hopes dashed, they are only under the manager's eye on Saturdays. Yet when I met a group of Kettering players on a Midland railway station platform the other day they were full of the praises of Lawton.

A BIG RIVAL

Quite a compelling personality, so much so that when the English team were on tour on the Continent it was always "Tommy Lawton" the natives howled for more than "Stanley Matthews" or "Tommy Finney". Although he always had a big rival in the glamour stakes in Frank Swift.

Much water has passed under the bridge since Tommy was an office boy at Burnley after being wooed away from his native Bolton. He played League football when he was sixteen years old, and was in the First Division with Everton when he was seventeen. There he made his name, and like his great predecessor "Dixie" Dean became a wizard at heading the ball.

Despite the War gap when he was a member of a great Army side, he collected 28 international "caps" and afterwards moved from Chelsea to Nottingham, to Brentford and there he became a manager. The moves totalled £67,000 in transfer money. Still he was not done with, and came back to the game as a player with Arsenal. Undoubtedly, the War and Third Division football with Nottingham prevented his winning dozens of "caps". He could have rivalled Wright, Finney and Matthews in this respect. Now the Lawton story has reached obscure Kettering. Will it end there?

Answers To Sports Quiz

- Four.
- Tossing the coin.
- Not less than 3 feet.
- The English Cup.
- (a) Wembley, (b) Stoke, (c) Ashes.
- For each end.
- Henley, 1929.
- Emil Zatopek.
- C.B. Fry in 1901, and Don Bradman, 1938-9 seasons.
- Heavyweight, heavyweight, heavyweight, and bantamweight.

WHY DO THEY SAY THAT I AM A MISFIT?

Asks STANLEY MATTHEWS

I give up. The Stanley Matthews knockers are out and about again. They are saying I am finished ... that I have lost my speed ... that I don't fit in with the rest of the England team, and that my only value these days is as a soccer entertainer.

What do they think I am ... a sporting Danny Kaye? Let me say here and now that I play football because I love the game, because it is my career — and I always play to win. The entertainment part is purely incidental.

I agree that there should be no place for a footballer of 41 in an England team planned for the future.

But I also believe—and the selectors obviously believe it too—that you pick a team to win the match for which it is selected.

As for my being too difficult to play with, that I bewilder my own inside men, of course it is untrue.

The allegation is a reflection on all the many great inside men I have had. I rate them highly, highly over to agree with them, they couldn't play with me.

I am told that I like the ball to my feet. Well, which winger doesn't?

So far as I can see, I am difficult only because I am constantly marked by opponents. That has been one of the hazards of my game for years.

THE QUICK PASS

You see, the easiest ball for an inside forward to give is the quick pass to his wing man.

The job becomes harder when the winger is closely watched, with a full-back standing almost on his toes.

But my inside partners over the years have found ways of overcoming that. I have never asked for the ball in a certain way and we all played together with one object — to see England or club through to victory.

The team plan should always come before the reputation of any player. Tactics must always be dictated by the run of play.

I can recall one game where the two wingers — and I was one of them — were cut right out of the game. But I didn't squeal, I could only stand and marvel at the brilliant strategy of coach Carter.

It was against Wales. Carter, that wonderful football general, realised almost at the kick-off that the way to win was down the middle. So down the middle went the ball.

That day I saw what was probably the greatest inside-forward display of all time. Carter, Lawton and Mannion cornered Wales on their own. They didn't need the wingers.

The winning of the game was more important than any player's feelings or reputation. Of course I can play with any inside man—and other players can play with me.

We haven't done so badly at that. We lost only 17 of the 81 games I have played with with England over the past 22 years, winning 50 of them.

Surely nobody in his right mind thinks that a team—especially an England team—go on to the field without talking over tactics.

LITTLE IDEAS

Many times I have been room-mate with my inside man before internationals and we have worked out little ideas ... sometimes they worked, sometimes they didn't.

I remember once trying out a move with Wilf Mannion and Billy Wright.

It was to be a defence-wrecking plan, and we all worked hard to perfect it. But we never tried it out during the game. Why?

Simply because all three of us realised on the field that the run of play made our scheme useless—another method was doing very nicely, thank

you. So we scrubbed our carefully rehearsed scheme.

See what I mean about the state of the game dictating team tactics?

They say I am losing my speed. Well, I am still fast enough over these vital first 20 yards—and that is all any player needs.

It has been a great thrill to play with so many great inside forwards over the years.

If I have to name my favourite, they are the immortal Ralph Carter, little Wilf Mannion, and my old brilliant club mate at Blackpool, Stan Mortensen.

And a final word for Willie Hall, that grand little player who scored five goals in succession for England against Ireland in 1938.

THE TRUTH—BY HIS PARTNERS

● Stanley Mortensen—Stan Matthews never gives instructions as to how he wants the ball. When I first teamed up with him he told me: "You play your own game, Stan, and I'll fit in with you."

● Ralph Carter—I wish I could play with him now. What a wing we would make! I think Stan is better to play with now than ever before.

And if he was a little difficult to match in the old days, well, after all, he was Stanley Matthews.

● Wilf Mannion — Playing with Matthews is an education. Ninety minutes with him is worth a pot of gold.

When you give Stan the ball you are tempted to stand and admire, to be amused at the way he bamboozles his rivals.

You have to forget that and be ready for that perfect pass. You must turn his genius to good account.

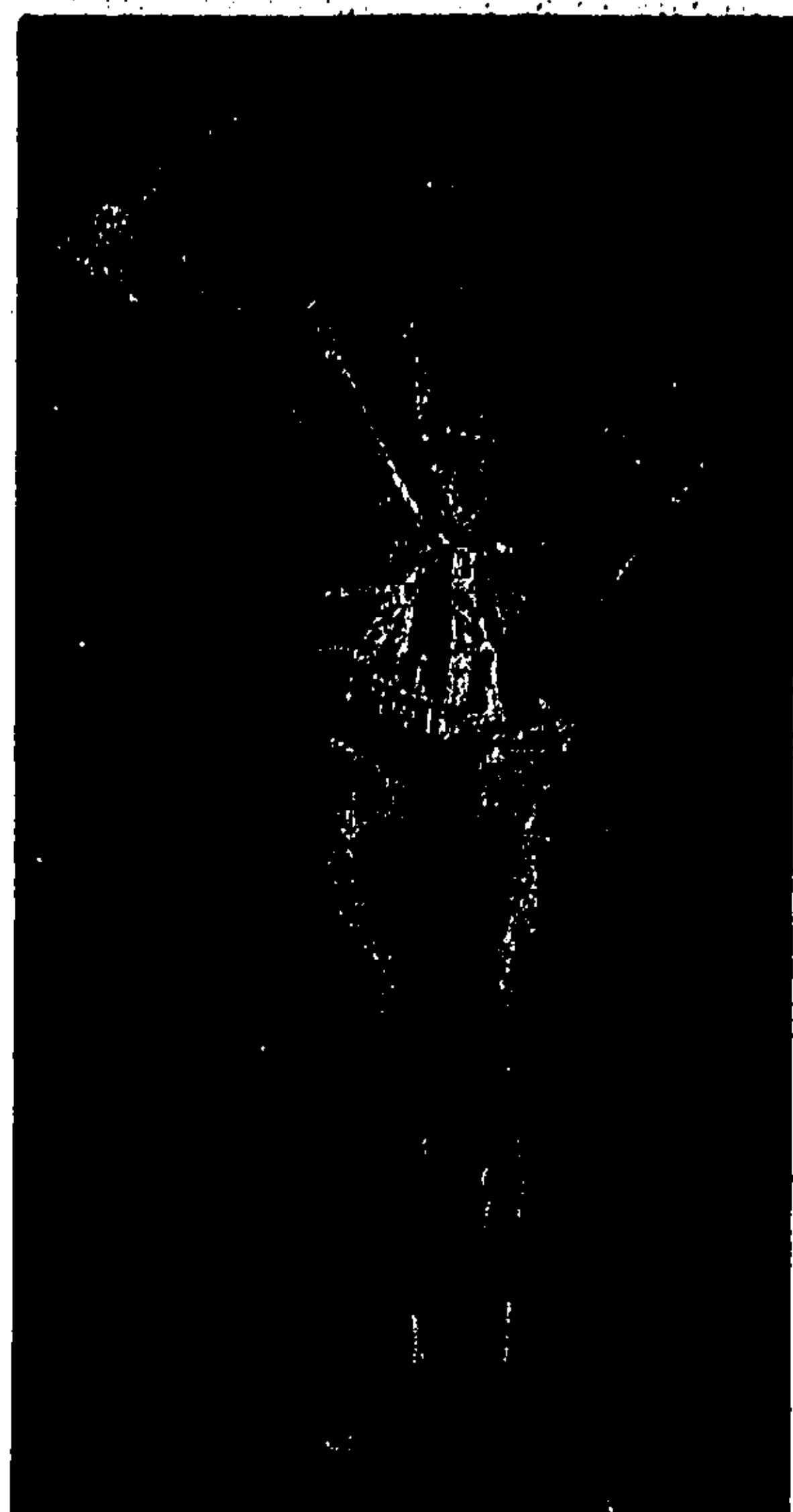
● Ernie Taylor—I've played with Stan for five years. We've never drawn up a common plan of action—we just fit in together.

I give him the ball and then run into position. I know I'll get the pass properly and at

the right time. Stan can still dominate any game.

—(London Express Service).

HANDSOME ATHLETE



The annual contest at the Maison de Chimie, Paris, to choose "The Most Handsome Athlete in Europe", was won this year by 20-year-old James Mathe of Paris, pictured here with his trophy and his muscles.—Express Photo.

Sports Diary

TODAY

Hexagonal Tourney: Police v Club (8.30) 3.30 p.m.; RAF v Army South (Kai Tak) 3.30 p.m.; Army North v Navy (CB) 3.30 p.m.

Soccer

Div. 1: Eastern v RAF (Club); South China v Police (Club); Club v St. Joseph's (5.45). All matches at 3.30 p.m.

Reserve Div.: South China v Police (Club); Club v St. Joseph's (8.30). Both matches at 2 p.m.

Div. 2: RAF Sai Wan v Solidors (Club) 3 p.m.

RANG v Fisons (HIV) 2.15 p.m.; Telephone v Jardines (HIV) 3.45 p.m.; B and S v Dockyard (HIV) 3.45 p.m.

Div. 3: Kowloon Godown v RIL (HIV) 2.15 p.m.; Mercantile v Recreation (HIV) 2.15 p.m.; Dodwell v CMB (HIV) 3.45 p.m.

1st Army Referees Association Meeting, Nutsa Club, Chatham Road 10.15 a.m.

WE HAVE MANY PROMISING YOUNGSTERS

1957 WILL SEE BRITISH SOCCER AMONGST THE WORLD'S LEADERS

Says DON REVIE

The Old Year is ticking away with all its memories and soon we shall be plunged into the hurly-burly of the Cup ties. With all the thrills and heartaches of Cup football upon us let me say straight away that the happiest moment I had in 1956 was when my old club, Manchester City, confounded the critics by winning the FA Cup at Wembley.

If I play for another ten years I don't expect to have so wonderful a moment in sport. My unhappiest moment? That was at Wembley too when Bert Trautmann threw himself at the feet of Peter Murphy and broke his neck. And my funniest moment was when little Ernie Taylor of Blackpool scored in ten seconds flat against Manchester City. When he was asked after the game if the move was planned he replied without batting an eye, "Sure, but it shouldn't have counted. I should have scored with my left foot instead of my right."

At this ending of the year let us for a moment take stock and ask, "Are there any brighter signs in British football?"

From the playing point of view I say "yes," but I predict that the only way soccer can win back its supporters is by:

(1) Improving ground accommodation so that the fans look upon their club as the sports centre of the town,

(2) By encouraging more floodlit football in the League, and

(3) Encouraging more Continental ideas in Britain. We don't need to copy all their styles—but we can learn from them as they can from us.

SELECTORS NOTE

Who are the young players whom I think will hit the headlines in the New Year? There are a lot I could mention, but I'll give you these few to think about. Brian Clough, the 21-year-old centre-forward from my home town Middlesbrough. Brian is following in the steps of the great Middlesbrough centre-forwards like George Camsell and Mickey Fenton. I think Brian's goal grabbing style will attract the eyes of the selectors before the end of 1957 and he will play for the under 23's at least.

Eddy Coleman, 20-year-old Manchester United right-half, has yet to follow his buddy, Duncan Edwards, into the England team. In Manchester they will tell you that Coleman is mustard on the ball. In fact a better ball player than Edwards. And when Coleman has played on the continent he has won loud acclaim. I put him down

on my list of footballers most likely to reach the top in the next few months.

Tim Coleman is 25 and he has one of the toughest jobs in soccer. He is the talent to wear the No. 7 shirt of Stoke City—that right-wing spot once held by Stan Matthews.

In the Potteries, Matthews is still an idol but the rangy Coleman has managed to win their hearts. His tricky style and ability to cut in and score, so reminiscent of Cliff Bartin, has caused many good judges to prophesy that Coleman, the lad who quit the RAF as a regular footballer, will one day play for England.

Derek Hogg, Leicester City's left-winger, is one of the many dribbling type of player. He is the idol of Leicester and feared by Second Division opponents. Yet he has not quite arrived as an England player. With his ability I am tempted to ask how much longer before Derek proves his true class in the highest company. I am sure he must do sooner or later.

DYNAMITE

At Arsenal they have one of the greatest little personalities you could ever wish to see.

Little Joe Haverly is the name, five foot four inch bundle of dynamite who has rapidly become the hero of Dublin's Dalymount Park when he has played for Elre. Little Joe's twinkling feet will surely be a big attraction on all our First Division grounds.

Turn now to Wales and Swansea, and here are two of

the greatest prospects in League football. Melvyn Charles, younger brother of John, has already won widespread popularity. I think he can become as big a box-office draw as his brother John.

Melvyn's Swansea club team mate, Cliff Jones, could become the Allan Morton of Welsh football. Cliff is a Welsh international already, but I feel we have still to see the best of him when he gets back into full time training after national service. There are so many more youngsters crowding on to the soccer scene, lads who must, with luck, make bigger names for themselves, chaps like Peter Taylor, Middlesbrough goalkeeper, Wilf Hopkinson, the Bolton goalkeeper, who was in fact his club's fifth choice at the start of the season and is now their regular first-teamer.

At Leeds they have Jackie Overfield, their brilliant young outside-left. At Sheffield Wednesday young Allan Finney, an outside-right who has all the makings of future greatness. So many more names I haven't the space to mention. So let's start this New Year in confidence. No one suggests that all is perfect in our soccer camp—it never was.

But these young players can make the future as great as ever our past was. So here's to 1957. Happy watching and no matter what the critics say I fancy our World Cup team in their matches this year to put the old country back amongst the leaders of the football world again.

(COPYRIGHT)

NAMESAKES

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill in the spaces against each of the clues below with a word related to my life. The letters in circles spell out my name. Who am I?

1 Act
2 Dress
3 Stunt
4 Merriment
5 Happy sound!
6 Contentions
7 Fools
8 Illumination
9 Fare this
10 Light play
11 Wiscracks
12 Action

Solution on back Page

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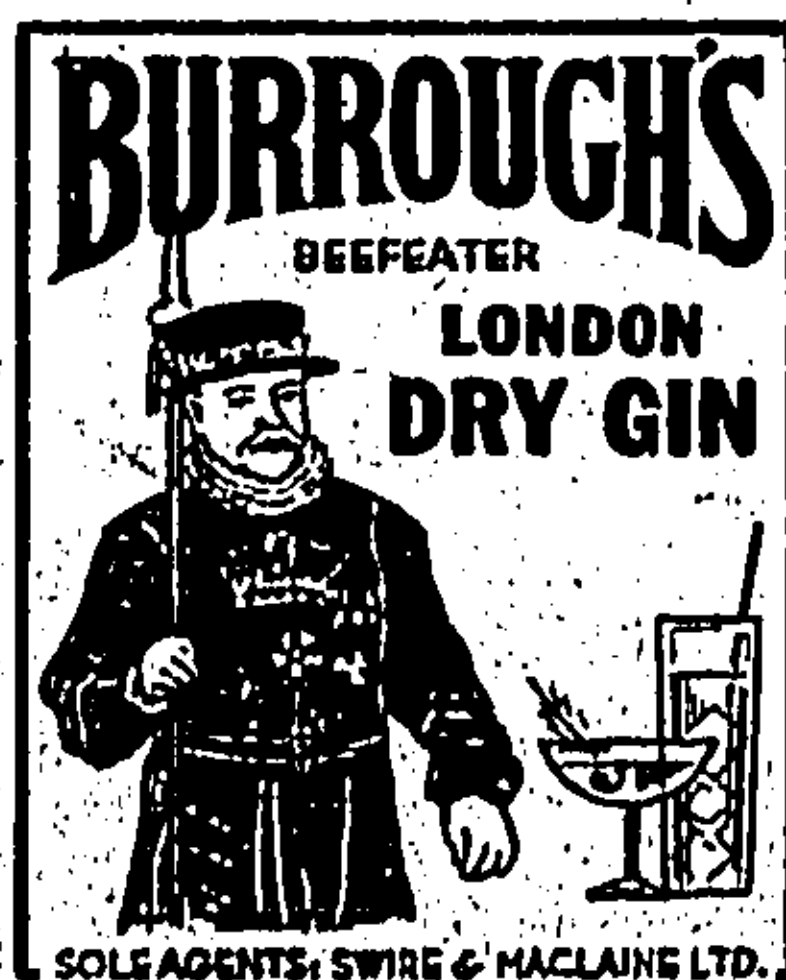
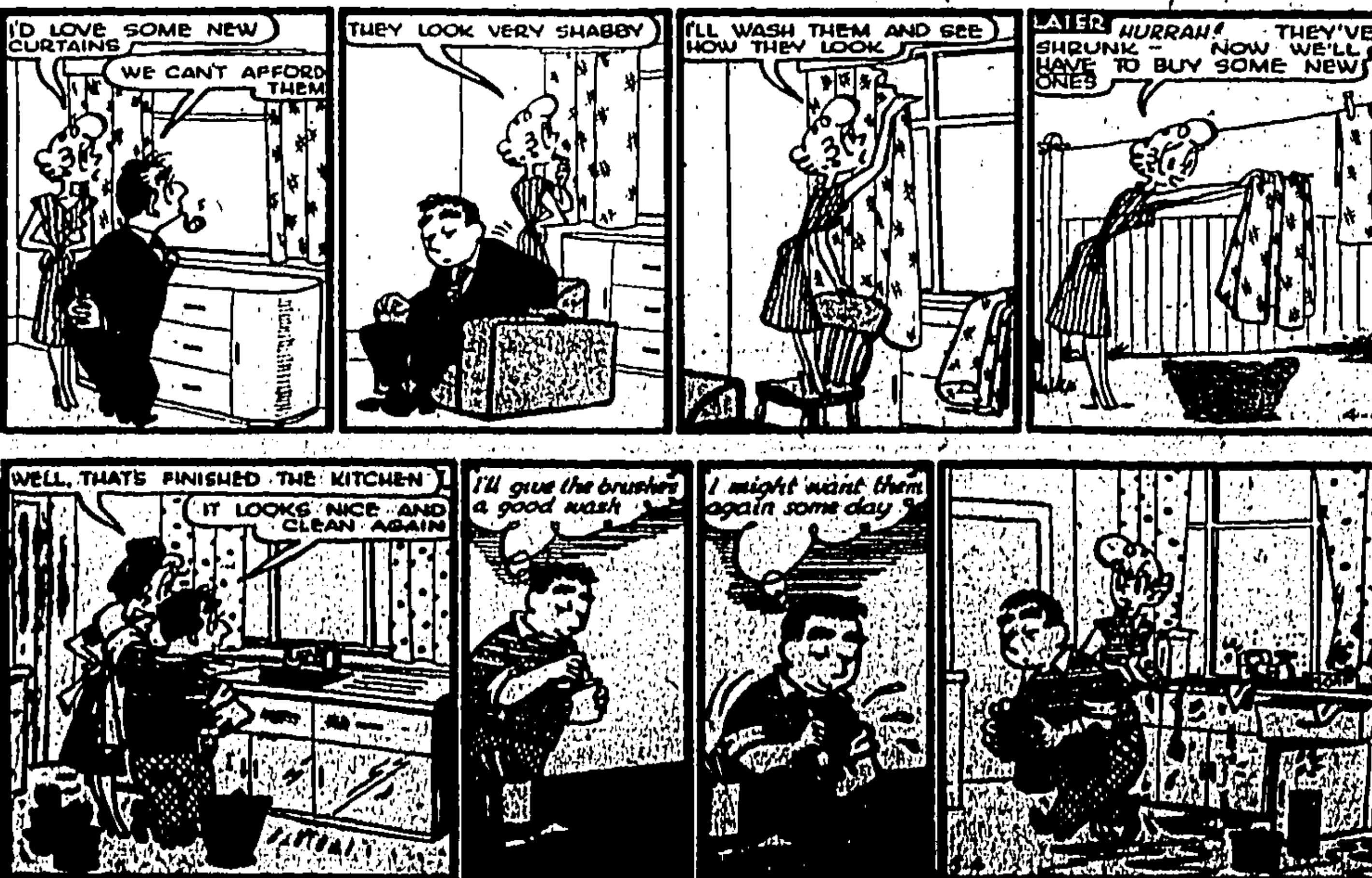


HERMES
TYPEWRITERS



ULTRA
ADDING MACHINES

THE WEEK-END GAMBOLES ... by Barry Appleby





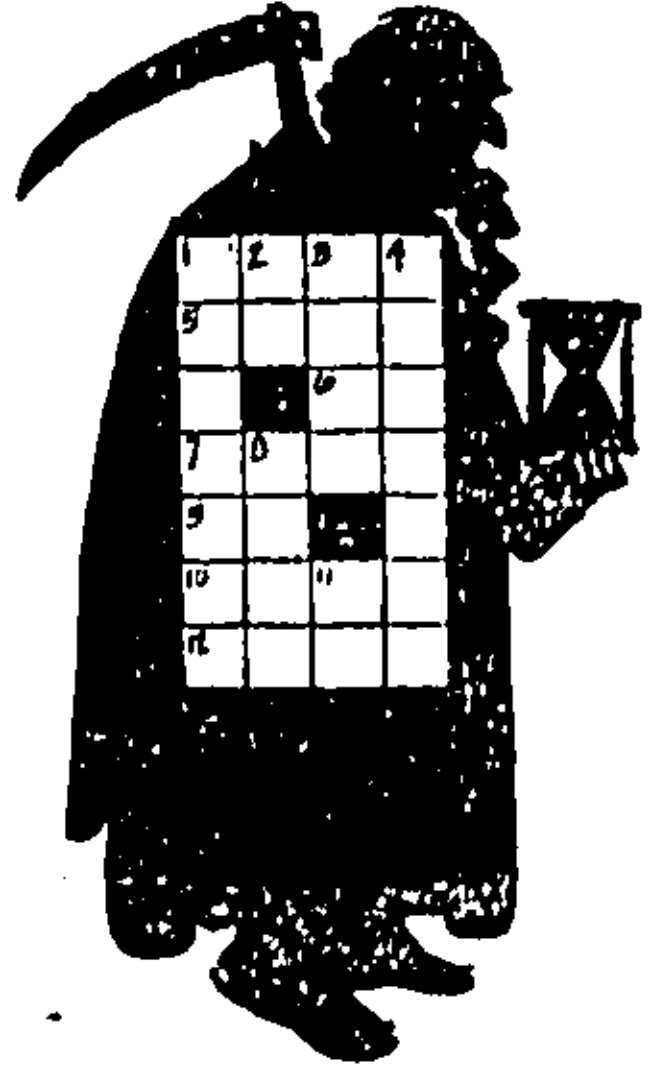
FEATURES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS



NEW YEAR'S PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

Cartoonist Cal put today's crossword puzzle on the outline of Father Time to dress it up a bit.



WHAT'S IN IT?

How many three-letter words can you make of the letters in NEW YEAR? The Puzzlemaster found 20. Can you do as well?

WORD DIAMOND

The Puzzlemaster picked GAMES, which can be played at New Year's Eve, as a centre for his diamond. Can you finish it? The second word is "a boy's nickname" and the fourth is "a number".

NEW YEAR REBUS

The Puzzlemaster says you just have to use the words and pictures right to find his four thoughts about New Year's Eve.

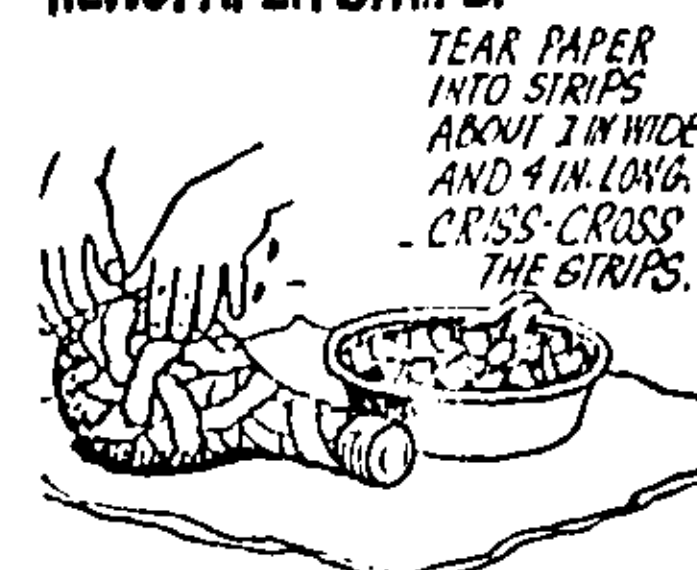


(Solutions on Page 20)

HOW TO MAKE A ZOMBI RATTLE

WELCOME IN THE NEW YEAR WITH THIS ZOMBI RATTLE.

1. COVER A LARGE USED UP LIGHT BULB WITH 4 OR 5 LAYERS OF WET NEWSPAPER STRIPS.

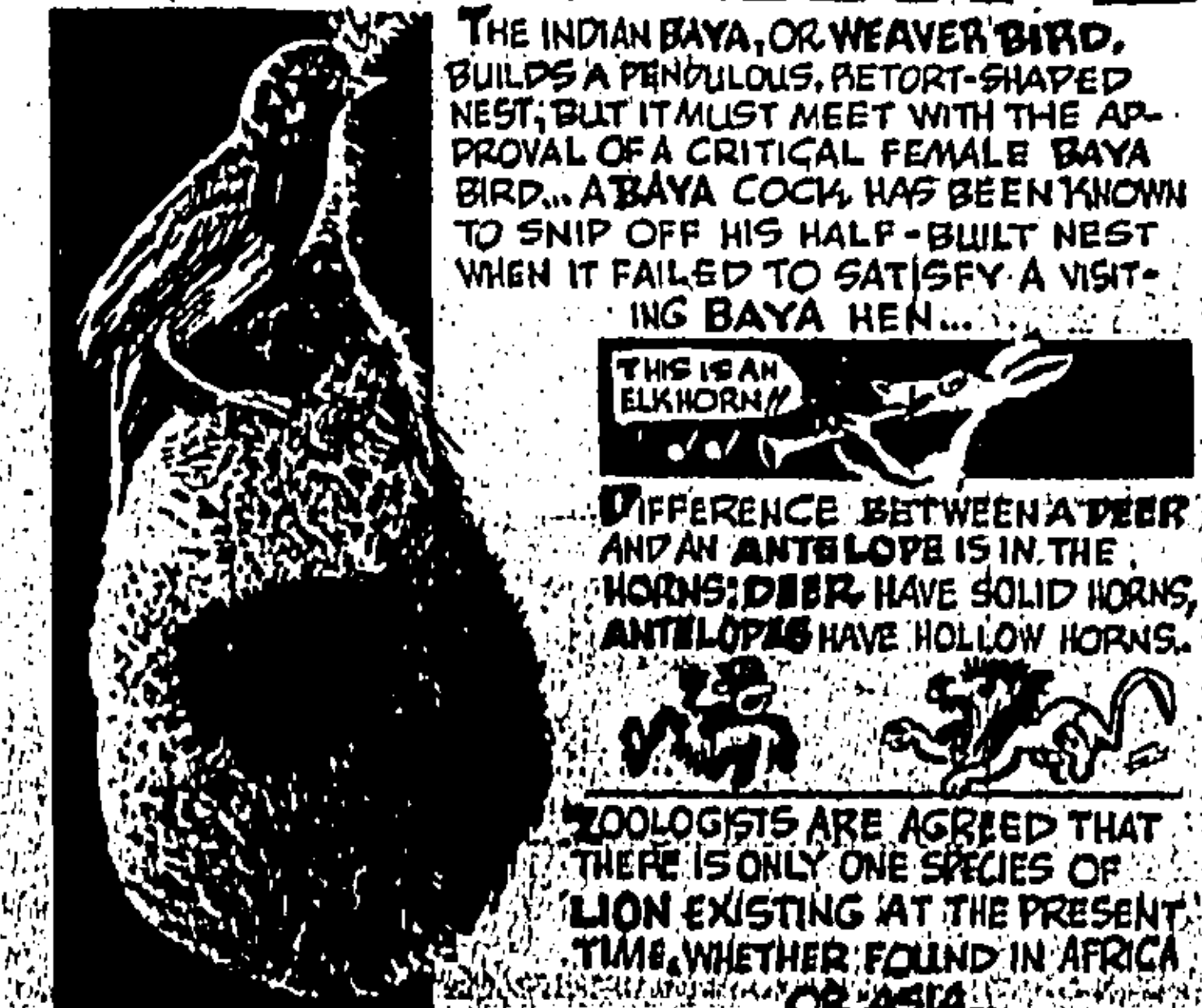


2. NEXT COVER THE BULB WITH 4 OR 5 LAYERS OF PAPER STRIPS THAT HAVE BEEN DIPPED IN THIN FLOUR AND WATER PASTE.



3. WHEN COMPLETELY DRY... PAINT WITH BRIGHT POSTER COLORS... WHEN DRY, PAINT WITH A COAT OF SHELLAC. LET DRY AND HIT WITH A HAMMER TO BREAK THE BULB.

40 YOKS WHO



THE INDIAN BAYA, OR WEAVER BIRD, BUILDS A PENICULAR, RETORT-SHAPED NEST, BUT IT MUST MEET WITH THE APPROVAL OF A CRITICAL FEMALE BAYA BIRD. A BAYA COCK HAS BEEN KNOWN TO SNIP OFF HIS HALF-BUILT NEST WHEN IT FAILED TO SATISFY A VISITING BAYA HEN.

THIS IS AN ELKHORN. DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A DEER AND AN ELK? DEER HAVE SOLID HORNS, ELK HAVE HOLLOW HORNS.

ZOOLOGISTS ARE AGREED THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE SPECIES OF LION EXISTING AT THE PRESENT TIME, WHETHER FOUND IN AFRICA OR ASIA.

Mrs Pokey Makes A Belated Resolution

A SHORT STORY

MR and Mrs Pokey lived in a little house on a hill. Mr Pokey was a hard-working man who went to work early every day at a factory where shoes were made.

Mrs Pokey kept house. She worked too, cleaning and shopping.

Somewhat or other, Mrs Pokey never seemed to get finished. She would start her housework and then stop to look out the window, or at a book. She'd forget to go back to her work, and before she knew it, the day would be nearly over and Mr Pokey would be home for his supper.

She sighed, "So there is. I must sew it some day."

"Why don't you do it now?" he asked. "It will only take a few stitches and a few minutes."

"I'll do it tomorrow," she promised.

So Mrs Pokey went off to the market and carried back all her packages.

When she came home and took out the bread and fruit she saw that the hole had grown a little larger. She knew she must sew it someday, but someday never seemed to come.

Mrs Pokey went to market again and again with the shopping bag, and each time she returned the hole was a little larger.

Mr Pokey noticed this and said, "The hole is too big to sew together with a few stitches now. You'll have to put a patch on the bottom of the bag. It will take longer than a few minutes to sew a patch on."



"Yes," sighed Mrs Pokey. "I don't have the time to do it now, though. I'll do it when I have the time."

The green shopping bag travelled back and forth, back and forth, to the market.

Now Mrs Pokey had to be careful to put only larger packages on the bottom, for small ones would slip out.

One day she hurried home from the market, for it was beginning to rain. The bag felt very heavy on her arm for it was loaded with oranges and bottles of milk.

She had just reached the top of the hill when she noticed her bag didn't seem heavy any longer. She was greatly relieved until she found out why.

There was good reason for it to be light, for, rolling down the hill, faster and faster, were the bright round oranges.

"Oh!" she cried.

And then came a crash. "My milk!" She watched the stream of white milk trailing after the oranges.

Then came the downpour of rain.

Mrs Pokey put the bag over her head to keep dry, but alas, her head came right out of the big hole.

She finally reached home, drenched and without food.

She held up the bag. The whole bottom was out. Now it most certainly would take longer than a few minutes to fix.

Mr Pokey came home while she was still working on the bag. She looked up expecting him to say, "I told you so," and indeed at first it looked as though he might by the expression on his face.

But Mr Pokey noticed how earnestly she worked over her bag and he soon forgot it.

He smiled and said, "I'll help you with the sewing. Let me know when you're tired."

—FERN SIMMS

Be A Blind Seer Who Sees All

If you have a friend who will act as an assistant, you can perform two very entertaining feats of mental telepathy. And unless you give the secret away yourself, chances are that no one will be able to guess how you can "read" his mind.

First sit down and blindfold your eyes. Then request your assistant to wander around the room at random and touch various articles of clothing that your spectators are wearing. These things might be rings, spectacles, shoes or whatever.

As he puts his hand on each he says, "I am touching what?" And you answer—correctly every time.

Mystifying? Of course. But here's how it's done:

The two of you have worked out a secret procedure, which means that he touches things in the same rotation always: First a ring, for example, then a head, then a shoe.

In this way, you always know what's next, without looking.

To complicate things for the spectators, you can, in addition, use a few catch phrases. If he says, for example, "Now I am touching what?" you know that he is following the code as pre-arranged.

But if he says instead, "I am touching what now?" you understand that he is repeating himself, and touching the same thing he did a moment ago, as another ring.

You can also work out a series of sound effects in order to indicate different colours. A cough may mean that the object is blue. If he claps his hands, this means it is red.

The second trick can be performed immediately afterwards.

Change places with your assistant and leave the room. Then he produces paper and pencil and writes down a series of numbers as suggested by the audience. He holds this in his hand, and signals you to come back.

You blindfold your eyes again, stand behind his chair, and place the tips of your fingers on his temples, directly above his cheeks.

Now, while he holds the paper so that only he can see it, you read off the numbers, despite your blindfold, easily and clearly.

ing his jaws without opening his mouth.

This permits you to feel a slight pressure against your fingers—undisturbed by the most observant watcher. Each pressure indicates one number—and 10 may stand for zero.

To top off the performance, your assistant can announce that he is going to add up the whole column of figures, silently, of course.

Yet you will read off the numerals as he writes them down—which you can do with no trouble whatsoever.

Later, while you take the blindfold from your eyes, pass the paper around, so that everybody present can check on the addition.

—BESS RITTER

What Do You Know About Mistletoe?

WE use it as a pretty holiday decoration, but we know that it has no magic powers.

Many years ago, men regarded mistletoe very differently. They thought it was planted on the oak tree during storms by a very powerful god. It was supposed to be a reward because men had worshipped that god and perhaps made human sacrifices to him.

Only the medicine man could cut it from the tree, and he had to do the cutting with a special sacrificial knife, perhaps the same knife with which he had killed the human victim.

In those days, men believed that carrying a sprig of mistletoe with them would help them to win wars.

They thought, also, that if they put a sprig of mistletoe near the roof of their houses, it would prevent fire from destroying the houses.

Or if a bit of mistletoe were put into a baby's crib, it would prevent the fairies or bad spirits from stealing the baby and leaving a fairy baby there instead.

They believed that mistletoe would cure epilepsy and other illnesses just because the god of the sick had planted it. Probably many people died of illnesses because they didn't know any other way to treat them than by the mistletoe method, which, of course, really doesn't do anything at all, good or bad, for any illness.

Sometimes we forget that the things we are taught and the things we can learn from books



have come to us through the experience of many generations.

Learning things sometimes seems dull and uninteresting, but maybe we will value our chances to learn things more if we remember that knowledge has been bought with the labour of many men who tried and tested ways of doing things and ways of believing.

Men are still testing and trying new ways, just as you will be doing in your life. Just each of them must learn. Just as you and I must learn. What men have proved up to this time.

Isn't it wonderful to live in an age when mankind has learned many things that help us to live better and longer?

—VINUS INGLISH

UNIQUE STAMP ISSUED BY SIX COUNTRIES

IN the perpetual struggle of mankind seeking a safer, better war-free world this stamp now takes its place. It is something unique among stamps because it is issued not by one country but by six.

The six are all in Europe. They are trying to build the continent up to a united whole, just as the U.S. is an integrated unit which allows its individual components certain individual laws and liberties.

The pioneer six are Belgium, Holland, Italy, Luxembourg, Western Germany and France. They have all issued the Europe stamp showing the letters built up in a tower. The scaffolding is still standing to indicate that a lot of constructive work has still to be done.

But the encouraging thing is that such an enterprise has been launched at all by six countries which differ so profoundly in customs and culture.

More amazing is the fact that only 11 years ago Germany was prostrate in defeat at the hands of at least three of her new partners backed by the Soviet armies from the east.

That memory touches another note. Will the wise process of knitting Europe together spread until Russia, too, is included in a federation of sanity which will in time embrace the whole world?

That is the hope which inspires the builders of the European federation today. Their stamp is perforated 12 1/2 by 13 1/2, printed in photogravure and two values issued by Holland cost 1/6 in London.

—J. A. A.



SOMETHING TO TRY How To Keep Your Resolutions

IF there is one characteristic that more than anything else makes a boy or girl weak and inefficient and undermines the chance of success, it is the inability to carry out an intention.

In the case of any single plan, they may not care greatly whether they execute it or forget it. But one lapse of purpose prepares them for a second and a third. They start a habit that may last a lifetime.

The secret of just how to keep resolutions is therefore a useful one.

There are two well-known rules for keeping resolutions. The first one is tell somebody. Observe that you are not to tell everybody. The booster does that and he or she is the last person in the world to accomplish anything.

But select some one person, your father or mother, your teacher, your sister or brother. Go to them and tell them what you intend to do. Use the same method about any poor habit you wish to drop.

You have now acquired a powerful ally, your confidant's expectations. It is as if two persons were working at it, instead of one.

The other rule is as simple: make up your own mind, after due thought. The reason most resolutions fail is because they never were resolutions in the true sense, but only vague hopes or desires. It often makes a difference at what time you do your thinking. Do not wait until it is time to act. Begin early, and yet not too early.

The best time to make a resolution for a day is the night before. If you have a venture ahead of you that requires courage, if you have a habit that you cannot break, sit down for five minutes just before going to bed and firmly make up your mind.

Go to bed and to sleep so believing, in the morning you will find that your customary doubts and hesitations have vanished, and you will go through the task with a rush, hardly aware of its difficulties.

It is a scientific fact that when you grapple a resolution in that way before you go to bed, the mind will "have it out" with the situation while you sleep and be ready to furnish you all the necessary will power when the time comes for action. If you are strong on good intentions, but weak on achievement, try these rules.

—JULIA W. WOLFE

The Winner—Glive!

It Took Him A Little Longer, But He Won—

By MAX TRELL

THE secret telephone behind the bookcase started ringing. Knarf and Hand, the shadow children with the turned-about names, who were the only ones in the house who knew where the magic telephone was, ran to answer it.

It was Willy Toad.

"We're playing a game," Willy said to Hand who got to the phone first. "Come on out and play with us. I'm here and Hopalong's here and Christopher's here and so are Blackie and Glive."

So Knarf and Hand went out and climbed over the garden wall and there they found Willy Toad, Hopalong, the Grasshopper, Christopher Cricket, Blackie Beetle and Glive, the Snail. They all shouted hello to Knarf and Hand.

"What game are we going to play?" asked Knarf.

"It's called Jump-the-Daisy," Glive the Snail said. "I don't like it much."

"That's because you can't jump, Glive," said Willy.

"That's right," said Christopher Cricket. "I think Jump-the-Daisy is a wonderful game."

The others all thought Jump-the-Daisy was a wonderful game, too. But Glive kept shaking his head.

At any rate, Knarf and Hand joined the gang in playing Jump-the-Daisy. It turned out to be, just as Willy Toad had said, a wonderful game.

Starting at the edge of the meadow, they jumped over all the daisies they could see. Hopalong went first because he could jump the highest. Next came Willy Toad and Christopher Cricket. Blackie Beetle wasn't too good at jumping. But, even so, he was better than poor Glive who couldn't jump at all and who had to climb slowly up to the top of each daisy and down the other side.

But Knarf insisted that he come along. He and Knarf ended by carrying him to the barn.

As they were walking, Knarf kept wondering about the "Grandfather Daisy". He was quite sure there weren't any big daisies near the barn. Then all at once, Knarf saw the "Grandfather Daisy". It was enormous.

"But it isn't a daisy at all," Knarf exclaimed. "It's a sunflower!"

The Winner

The others didn't seem in mind what it was called. It looked like a daisy and that was good enough for them. But when it came to getting over the top of the "Grandfather Daisy", Willy couldn't do it. Hopalong couldn't do it. Christopher couldn't do it. Blackie couldn't do it. And Knarf and Hand couldn't do it.

You've guessed it. Glive the Snail was the only one who could do it. He climbed up to the top of the "Grandfather Daisy" and down the other side.

Willy Toad was the only one who didn't want to jump at all. He was a sunflower lover. He said, "I don't want to jump at all. I want to be a sunflower. I want to be a sunflower. I want to be a sunflower."



Hopalong jumped first because he could jump the highest.

"Very tiresome," he kept mumbling in his gloomy way. "Why can't we play Climb-the-Clover instead? It's much less work."

"But how do we know who wins this game?" Hand asked Willy Toad after they had jumped over quite a number of daisies.

"The one who gets over the top of the 'Grandfather Daisy', near the barn, wins the game," Willy said. "Come on, everybody, let's try to do the 'Grandfather Daisy' now!"

Shouting and laughing Willy and Hopalong and Christopher and Blackie and Knarf and Hand all started for the barn. Suddenly they realised that Glive wasn't with them.

"I'm just going to sit here and rest," he said, mopping his forehead with a handkerchief. "You fellows go and jump that old 'Grandfather Daisy' yourselves."

But Hand insisted that he come along. He and Knarf ended by carrying him to the barn.

As they were walking, Knarf kept wondering about the "Grandfather Daisy". He was quite sure there weren't any big daisies near the barn. Then all at once, Knarf saw the "Grandfather Daisy". It was enormous.

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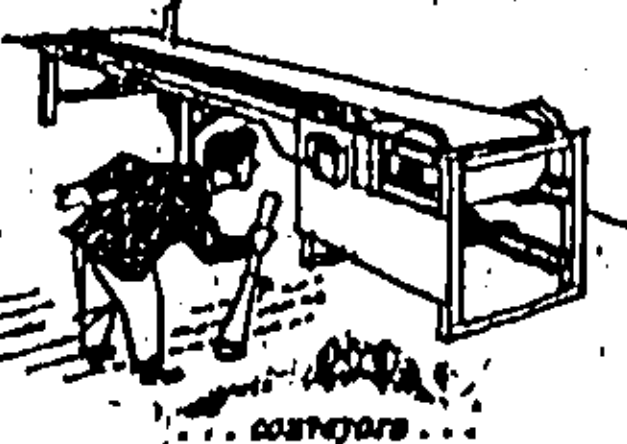
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—JULIA W. WOLFE

Rupert and the Old Chimney—17



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Page 20

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1956.

SHEAFFER'S



ADMIRAL "SNORKEL" PEN

South Africa Collapse In First Test

BAILEY AND STATHAM SCORE EARLY SUCCESS

Johannesburg, Dec. 28.

South Africa, collapsing dramatically against England's fast bowlers, faced almost certain defeat at the end of the fourth day in the opening cricket Test here today.

The South Africans, who had been left to make 204 in their second innings to win had lost seven wickets with only 40 runs scored when stumps were drawn.

The match ends tomorrow. Scores were England 268 and 150. South Africa 216 and 40 for seven.

Ball Lifting

During the afternoon, the ball had been lifting just enough to make batting awkward.

South Africa's opening pair, Alistair Taylor and Trevor Goddard, put on six but then pace bowler Trevor Bailey struck two great blows by dismissing Goddard and Hendry Keith in one over to make South Africa 10 for two wickets.

England's attack pressed home this early break through Brian Statham, who shared the opening assault with Bailey and claimed his hundredth wicket in Test cricket when he bowled John Waite with the first ball.

Third Success

Bailey had his third success at 20, having Taylor caught in the slips after the opening batsman had struggled 47 minutes for six runs.

The total reached 25 in an hour and then Statham tore through Russell Endean's defence and half the South African side were back in the pavilion.

Roy McLean, and John Watkins pushed the South African total to 36, made in 100 minutes and then Bailey claimed his fourth victim by getting McLean caught at slip.

With the third ball of the final over of the day, bowled by spinner Jim Laker, South Africa suffered another crushing blow with the dismissal of Watkins.

Bailey finished with the splendid figures of four wickets for 11 runs and Statham two for 20. It has been devastating bowling by the fast men.

Bowlers Assisted

The wicket had assisted pace bowlers throughout the day, as earlier South Africa's speed men Peter Heine and Neil Adcock had tied up England's batsmen. Heine took three for 41 and

Adcock three for 33. Denis Compton with 32 was England's top scorer but Godfrey Evans endured the innings with 30 in 49 minutes including a huge six over the square leg boundary.

SCOREBOARD

England first innings 268, (P.E. Richardson 117, M.C. Cowdrey 58, N. Adcock four for 30).

England second innings (continued from overnight 42 for three).

P. E. Richardson, I.W. Adcock 10
J. Bailey, C. Evans b Heine 10
D. Compton, C. & b Taylor 32
J. Laker, C. Evans b Goddard 29
P. D. H. May, C. Evans b Heine 14
M. C. Cowdrey, C. Goddard 14
A. Adcock 6
T. G. Evans, C. Heine b Taylor 30
F. Tyron, C. Watkins b Adcock 3
B. Statham, I.W. Taylor 12
Extras 12

Total 150
Wicket falls 4-84, 5-100, 6-107, 7-126, 8-145 and 9-147.

Bowling:
O M R W
Heine 19 7 41 3
Laker 13 1 35 2
Goddard 14 7 14 1
Taylor 17 6 40 4
Watkins 3 0 10 0
South Africa first innings 216
(T. Goddard 49, H. Keith 42, T. E. Bailey three for 33, J. Waite three for 42, B. Statham three for 71).

Second Innings
A. Taylor, C. Insole b Bailey 6
T. Goddard, C. Insole b Bailey 6
H. Keith, C. Evans b Bailey 6
J. Waite, B. Statham 6
R. Endean, B. Statham 6
F. McLean, C. Insole b Bailey 6
J. Watkins, B. Laker 6
C. Van Ryneveld, not out 4
Extras 4

Total (for 7 wks) 420
Wicket falls 1-0, 2-10, 3-11, 4-20, 5-25, 6-30 and 7-40.

Bowling to date:
O M R W
Statham 8 0 20 2
Bailey 8 2 11 4
Laker 13 1 31 3
—Reuter.

More US Oil For Europe

Washington, Dec. 28. The United States Secretary of Interior, Mr. Fred Seaton, announced today that the flow of oil from the United States to Western Europe increased to 421,000 barrels daily during the week December 13-19.

This was a gain of 34,000 barrels daily over the preceding week.

Accelerated shipments by United States oil companies began early in November, following closing of the Suez Canal and damage to Middle East pipelines and pumping stations.—China Mail Special.

ECONOMIC AID FOR POLAND

Washington, Dec. 28. The State Department spokesman said today that the United States was willing to provide economic aid to Poland.

The spokesman, speaking at his weekly press conference, said he could make no comment, however, on reports in the American press today that the Government had informed certain American maritime companies that it would examine sympathetically any request for permission to ship agricultural surpluses, particularly wheat, to Poland.

Answering a reporter's question on the possibility of American aid to Poland, the spokesman recalled the statement on December 18 by the Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, that the American and Polish Governments were in contact concerning American aid.—France-Press.

Rebel Toll Rises In Algeria

Algiers, Dec. 28. French security forces killed 27 Algerian rebels in a big encounter this week in the Tablat region of Algeria, about 50 miles southwest of Algiers, it was officially announced here today.

Another rebel was killed during a military operation in the Guelz region of the Constantine Department.

Other local operations by French security troops throughout the country have resulted in the deaths of 11 rebels. Fifteen suspects have been arrested and a large quantity of arms and ammunition seized.—France-Press.

Rediffusion

H.K.T. 12.30 London Play House—1. See A Dark Stranger; 12.30 Noon, Tune Time; 12.30 P.M. Three Men on a Horse; 1. Keyboard Capers; 1.15 News; Weather Report and Special Announcements; 1.30 Music by George Melachrino and his Orchestra; 2. Saturday Requests—Presented by Betty; 2. Year by Year; 3.30, Thirty Minute Theatre "A Door Must Be Kept Open or Shut" by Alfred de Musset; 4.20 approx. Football Commentary—Easton v. R.A.F.—Direct broadcast from the Hongkong Club Stadium; 5.10 Rhythm Parade; 5.30, in the Morgan Manors; 6. Birthday Mailbag; 6.02, Unit Requests presented by Linda; Calling; 6.48 Gurka Infantry Brigade; 7. Time Signal and the News; 7.00, Weather Report, Announcements and Interlude; 7.10, Benny Goodman Show; 7.20, Rediffusion's Jazz Club; 8. Dorothy Carless Show; 8.15, "I Love A Mystery"—The Mystery of Mayerling; 8.30, Rediffusion's Voice of Sport—News and Views of the Colony's Sports and Sportmen; 8.35, Signal, News and Home News from Britain; 9.10, The Shiro Hit Parade; 9.40, Harlem Nocturne; 10.15, Paul Temple and the Lawrence Affair—Episode 1—"The Little Things"; by Francis Durbridge; 10.45, One Night Stand; 11. Rediffusion's Dance Party; 12 Mid-night, "God Save the Queen".

ATHLETE SUSPENDED

Luxembourg, Dec. 28. Jose Barthel, Luxembourg's 1952 Olympic 1,500 metres track athletics gold medalist, has been suspended by the Luxembourg Athletics Association for six months, it was learned here today.

Before leaving for Melbourne to compete in this year's Olympics, Barthel had criticised the Federation for failing to give him the necessary financial and moral support.

He was unplaced in the 1,500 metres heats at Melbourne and was eliminated in the opening stages.—France-Press.

New A-Energy Production

Monterey, Dec. 28. A new method of producing atomic energy without uranium or fusion at high temperatures has been discovered by a research team at the University of California at Berkeley, it was learned today.

The amount of energy produced by the new method has been infinitesimal up to now, and the scientists said that its possible success depends on the existence of a nuclear particle which could prolong the reaction. The scientists admitted they did not know if such a particle existed.—France-Press.

Washington, Dec. 28. The International Co-operation Administration today announced a 4,000,000 dollar (£1,428,500 sterling) loan to Iceland to finance "essential general imports".—Reuter.

DARTWORDS SOLUTION

NAGARA Waterfall Force Brute Rebut Debut Debt National Grant Rant Rent Pepper corn Piper Peter Great Bear Today Boy Guard Bear Admiral Red Lead Plead Please Lapse Slip Shod Shop Stop Watch Catch Merry Plain Jane Jade Mix Manx Cat Cant Bevel Level Best Bent Blue Bits Bats BATH.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"They're going to start kissing games—we can go hide in the closet and come out in time for the cats!"

Hero's Welcome For Nehru On His Return

New Delhi, Dec. 28.

Indian Premier, Jawaharlal Nehru, who received a tremendous welcome when he flew into New Delhi today, back from his United States visit, said the world's problems could not be solved by conversations.

The Premier said the world situation could not change because of talks. Nehru arrived at New Delhi airport this evening after his 15-day trip to the United States and Europe, to be greeted with a hero's welcome.

The diplomatic corps turned out in full dress led by Indian Vice-President, Dr. Bhabha Krishnan, with ministers and Indian and foreign officials.

Little Better

Nehru said the danger to the world still continued. It was possible, he said, that the situation was a little better but this was a question of only minor changes.

He said that a top-level meeting of heads of state was unlikely in the near future.

The Indian Premier said that American President Eisenhower had told him he would like to visit India but that no date had been fixed for such a visit.

Regarding the Suez question, Nehru said the clearing of the Canal had begun and that was a step forward. Once the Canal was cleared, he added, other measures could be taken.

Meeting Chou

Nehru is due to meet Chinese Premier Chou En-lai in New Delhi tomorrow. Chou, who is at present on a tour of Pakistan, arrived this evening in Dacca.—France-Press.

BOYS AND GIRLS PAGE SOLUTIONS:

CROSSWORD:

WHAT'S IN IT: Any, are, eye, car, ere, ern, ewe, nay, nee, new, ran, raw, ray, war, way, wee, wen, yow, yew, yow.

WORD DIAMOND:
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NEW YEAR REBUS: Parties: Party hats; Ringing bells; Dancing.

WHAT'S IN IT: Any, are, eye, car, ere, ern, ewe, nay, nee, new, ran, raw, ray, war, way, wee, wen, yow, yew, yow.

WORD DIAMOND:
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NEW YEAR REBUS: Parties: Party hats; Ringing bells; Dancing.

NAMESAKES

Answers:—1. Turn. 2. Clothes. 3. Trick. 4. Mirth. 5. Laughter. 6. Antics. 7. Glows. 8. Footlights. 9. Stage. 10. Comedy. 11. Jokes. 12. Movement.—Norman Wisdom.



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BANK HOLIDAY

The Exchange Banks will be closed for the transaction of public business on Tuesday, the 1st January 1957. (The first week-day in January).

Hongkong, 29th Dec., 1956.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

"PERSEUS"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Paulsen & Bayes-Davies at Holt's Wharf from 10 a.m. on January 2 and 3, 1957, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, December 28, 1956.

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Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Paulsen & Bayes-Davies at Holt's Wharf from 10 a.m. on January 2 and 3, 1957, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hong Kong, December 28, 1956.

CHURCH NOTICE

ST. PETER'S CHURCH
The Missions to Seamen, 40 Gloucester Road, Tel. 1421.
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7.00 p.m. Evening Service.
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Best wishes for a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year...

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